ROGER BALDWIN on NORMAN THOMAS

THE NATION

JANUARY 22, 1977 60 cents

## South Korean Exposure
## BAD NEWS FOR PRESIDENT PARK
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# EDITORIALS

## Carter's Inaugural

Inaugural addresses by American Presidents are generally composed of equal parts of humility, exhortation and inspiration. It must be said that their effect is not often inspiring, that humbleness before the great responsibility to be assumed has lately rather gone out of fashion, and that urging the people to greater efforts in the common interest has become the dominant note on these quadrennial occasions.

These words, despite the date on this week's cover, are written before Governor Carter becomes President Carter, and this is no effort either to predict what he will tell his fellow citizens or to try to influence what he will say to us. We do not expect that he will follow the lead of Andrew Jackson in 1829 in admitting "a diffidence, perhaps too just, in my own qualifications." He will probably not imitate John Quincy Adams in 1825 when that proud, diffident man told his audience that he was "less possessed of your confidence in advance than any of my predecessors." It is most doubtful that he will adopt the tone of James K. Polk in 1845 when that forceful man declared, "Well may the boldest fear and the wisest tremble when incurring responsibilities on which may depend our country's peace and prosperity, and in some degree the hopes and happiness of the whole human family."

We dare to hope, however, that Carter's Inaugural Address will contain a proper mixture of modesty and of vision, that other familiar ingredient of speeches on this occasion. It should, we think, be based on the confidence that he has, in fact, a mandate to act as President. There has been much talk since November 2 that he won a narrow victory; the implication is that he had better, therefore, use his great powers sparingly.

Perhaps because it was indeed no landslide, Carter seems to have been affected by this line, and "assurance" has become the watchword of the transition period. He and his staff have been busy "assuring" this and that interest and pressure group that he will pay attention to their needs and do nothing to offend them. Most of the assurees, so to speak, have been in the business community, which seems to have fared as well as it usually does in the exclusion from the Cabinet of people who might seriously question things as they are in corporate America.

The business world can take care of itself, as it demonstrated yet again in that show of muscle that was the steel price increase. It is another, and far larger segment, of the American people that really needs and is entitled to assurance from the new President—namely, the millions who elected him, the common man and woman, all of us whose names do not end in Inc. Is it too much to hope that Carter will really be addressing them on January 20?

Perhaps he would strike the necessary chords if he can convince himself that his mandate from the people is as strong as that of most of his predecessors. He should forget the line of those who, for their own purposes, are trying to cut him down to size by stressing the supposed narrowness of his election. The fact is that his margin was the sixth highest among all Democrats since the Civil War; only FDR in his four runs and Johnson in 1964 did better. Beyond that, his proportion of the vote was almost that of the median percentage for the winner in all the Presidential elections this country has had.

In an interesting analysis of the 1976 election by Jim Chapin in the December *Newsletter of the Democratic Left*, there is another significant observation about the nature of Carter's victory, and that is that his winning margin came from the lower-income groups.

Class factors were much more telling than all the post-election chat about regional and ethnic voting patterns would indicate. For instance, a close analysis of the white vote in the South and the black vote everywhere indicates that both groups were voting their (thin) pocketbooks when they marked their ballots for Carter. And, as Chapin makes clear, the 1976 election was "one of the least sectional elections in our history in terms of the popular vote."

So there should be no doubt in President Carter's mind that he has a popular mandate and that his strongest support comes from the economically weakest section of society. His Cabinet choices suggest a desire to appease the elites of various kinds, and this was probably to be expected. We cannot hail this Cabinet with enthusiasm but we are willing for a while to suspend judgment on it.

If Carter in his Inaugural Address can recall that he ran for the Presidency as a kind of modern Populist and that his real constituency contains the mass of the country's disadvantaged, and if he can show that he means to do all that he can to lift the level of existence of all those Americans, then he has the basis for an inspiring speech. After the last decade of Presidential leadership, and the absence of it, we have a right to hope that we can cheer him as he becomes the 39th President of the United States.

## Patronizing Proxmire

It was a most unedifying spectacle that Sen. William Proxmire (D., Wis.) put on at the confirmation hearing of Patricia Roberts Harris for Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. In a ridiculous parody of some solemn words from this country's past, the Senator told a black woman who rose in life from a start as the daughter of a Pullman dining-car waiter to be an ambassador, a law school professor and dean, and a partner in a major law firm that she was not "of, by and for the people."

Perhaps that would have been a legitimate observation for a Senator to make about any of the scores of upper-crust nominees the Senate has routinely stamped "approved" without so much as a question about their links to the world of corporate power. It was in grotesquely bad taste as applied to Patricia Harris. The gaffe is compounded by the facts of Proxmire's own comfortable background. The only sweat on the Wisconsin Senator's brow has come from his habit of jogging to work at the Capitol.

Patricia Harris may not be the most estimable member of the Carter Cabinet (we cannot forget that this ambitious woman allowed herself to be used to oust Harold Hughes as head of the credentials committee for the 1972 Democratic convention). But she is, at the very least, a respect-



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able person who has risen high in this world through her own efforts and intelligence. She was certainly entitled to more respectful treatment than she got at the hands of Proxmire.

After listening to a lecture from the Senator on how HUD needed a leader who was "sympathetic to the problems of the poor," Patricia Harris told him off in quite eloquent words. "You do not understand who I am," she said. "I am a black woman, the daughter of a Pullman car waiter. I am a black woman who even eight years ago could not buy a house in parts of the District. I didn't start out as a member of a prestigious law firm but as a woman who needed a scholarship to go to school. If you think I have forgotten that, you are wrong."

That should have checked Proxmire, but it did not. At the end of the hearing he declared that she had been a "smash hit as a witness," but, after giving her that show-business accolade, he said he would vote against her confirmation.

Many things are wrong with the federal government's intervention in the business of housing Americans. Banks, federal subsidies and the building industry and construction unions have been wrongly stirred into the mixture of programs which Congress has passed (and then has sat back to watch fail). But there is no reason to think that an "expert" in that particular bureaucratic specialty would do any better than a highly qualified lawyer, male or female, black or white. And there can be no excuse for the patronizing attitude toward Mrs. Harris expressed at that hearing by Sen. William Proxmire of Wisconsin.

## The Annual Red Scare

The Russians are coming. They are always coming at this time of year. It is not the wintry winds off the steppes that drive the Tartar hordes ever westward, it is budget time in Washington. The rise and fall of the Red Menace is a seasonal thing. It is at its most ominous when the weather is worst for military operations. It shrinks from its monstrous maximum under the gentle breezes of spring.

If ever a thing was cyclical, it is Soviet might, swelling and subsiding according to a schedule set by those who decide in Washington how much the United States should spend on arms and men each year. So the whole thing is out of the Russians' hands and in those of the intelligence analysts and military thinkers, so to speak, who salute the Stars and Stripes, not the hammer and sickle. And the cycle is controlled by the clockwork of the federal budgeting process.

The United States has been through, and survived, these winter scares before. Sometimes they have been based on a new Russian weapons system, discovered just in time. Sometimes a Russian intervention in some part of the world has brought the shivers to official Washington. Always the superiority-parity-sufficiency equations are trotted out and from year to year the balance is seen to tilt, in this season, toward the great adversary.

What is remarkable about this year's exercise in strategic fright is the extent to which it is based on alleged Russian "intentions." In the trade, profession or business

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of military intelligence (and it is all of those things), intentions are famously the least reliable factor. It takes no expertise to see why that is so. Plain common sense tells us that we can have a fair idea of the capabilities of another power but that to divine its intentions exceeds the capacity of the human mind, even as extended by the computer. That was impossible even in the good old days when war's casualties were measured in mere millions as against the hundreds of millions that modern weaponry have brought within easy reach of annihilation.

Nevertheless, this year's CIA estimate of Soviet military capabilities and strategic objectives relies to an extraordinary degree on the "intelligence community's" guesses about Russian intentions. These characters would naturally deny that guesswork played any part in their deliberations. They would claim that sober analysis of objective reality brought them to their current "somber" conclusions about what the USSR *will do* to have its way in the world.

That was why the CIA's Director George Bush brought in a so-called "B-team" of professional pessimists to challenge the more sanguine "A-team" fellows of the regular intelligence establishment. By all the thoroughly leaked accounts of what happened in this dialectical game, the official pessimists managed to tip the consensus toward a much darker view than usual about Russia's real aims. MADness (mutual assured destruction) is out, passé, and we are told that Russia is hell-bent for strategic dominance.

Even without these grim estimates of the United States' comparative military strength, Congress would be beginning its annual round of hearings. But with this gloomy new impulsion, three Senate hearings are already scheduled and the House, which must actually raise the money to pay for all this, will not lag far behind. Our elected representatives will be told such horror stories as that, by 1980, Moscow will be able to drop an ICBM within sprint, as against quarter-mile, distance from our own missile silos, those storehouses of destruction.

One would think, or hope, that Congress by now would be aware of the seasonal nature of these Soviet scare stories and resist their manipulative effect. But our representatives are so set in their accustomed grooves that they regularly go through the response phase of this reactionary cycle, just as if there were something new in it every year.

Two members of the outgoing Ford Cabinet have recently been heard on this great topic of "national security" and they are on diametrically opposite sides of the question. Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld, as expected, looked into the closet where he keeps our arsenal and found it nearly bare. He told *The Washington Star* (January 9) that the "steady modernization, strengthening the improvements (*sic*) and capability of the Soviet Union, coupled with a behavior pattern by the United States over some fifteen years of actually reducing our effort in real terms, would inject a fundamental insecurity into the world situation."

Secretary of State Kissinger, on the other hand, told the National Press Club the other day that he did not believe that the Soviet Union "is achieving military supremacy over the United States." He made the key point when he added the observation that "the essence of the contemporary problem in the military field is that the term 'supremacy,' when casualties will be in the tens of millions, has practically no operational significance as long as we do what is necessary to maintain a balance." (Perhaps the hawks will say that Kissinger was corrupted by that Nobel Peace Prize for the 1972 Vietnam peace non-agreement.)

Balance is, of course, the essential idea. Even if it is called "balance of terror," what it means is that either side can inflict unacceptable damage on the other and therefore that there can simply be no nuclear "exchange" between the two superpowers. No amount of fiddling with destruction ratios, throw-weights or any other component of the balance that has existed for a generation can alter that basic fact. The military, by its very nature, will go on inventing new and more awful devices. And its allies in "intelligence" will go on inventing rationales for more and more of these weapons even if they have to justify them with the foggy stuff of "intentions."

This is the nature of these beasts. All of us, and especially Congress, should know that by now. We will soon see whether Congress and the Carter administration have learned anything at all from the many years of this annual exercise in strategic blackmail.

# EN-NOBELING MILTON FRIEDMAN

**ROBERT SKOLE**

*Stockholm*

In a way not intended by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Nobel Prize to Milton Friedman may have had great value.

I recall the day, October 14, when we journalists waited two hours past the original time set for the Academy of Sciences to announce its Economics Prize. Normally, these announcements are made right on schedule: by the time the winning candidate is presented to the full meeting of the Academy, it's a cut-and-dried matter. But the Friedman announcement was delayed, and it was pretty obvious that some members of the Academy were arguing against him. When the vote (secret, of course) was finally made and the name was released, several journalists whom I know as generally knowledgeable all-around reporters, turned to me and asked, "Who the devil is this Milton Friedman?" Today, any man (or woman) in the streets of Stockholm can tell you.

The Swedish Chile Committee, of course, knew Friedman well, and within minutes of the Academy's formal announcement it issued a statement criticizing the Academy

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*Robert Skole has been a foreign correspondent in Sweden for twelve years.*



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choice as "a mockery upon the people of Chile." And the debate was on.

Within days, the link between Friedman and his "Chicago Boys" and Chile was well-publicized. Orlando Letelier's article, "The 'Chicago Boys' in Chile," first published in *The Nation* (August 28), and the *Business Week* (January 12, 1976) article, "A Draconian Cure for Chile's Economic Ills?" were getting wide circulation. Editorial writers and those criticizing the selection of Friedman were especially fond of quoting *Business Week* on Friedman's trip to Chile: "[Our] sources in Chile, however, report that the appearances served to create support for the junta."

When Friedman arrived in Stockholm, he immediately became perhaps the world's most protected economist. He was whisked through the brand new $60 million Stockholm International Airport building without getting the chance—taken by all the other Nobel Prize winners—to meet the press in the delightfully elegant VIP room. The next day, however, he did hold a press conference, and it was the toughest, hottest, most aggressive press conference I have attended in my twelve years as a journalist in Sweden. Professor Friedman was most defensive: several times he responded to journalists' questions by attacking the press or by starting out, "People like you . . ."

At one point, reporters couldn't quite believe their ears. Asked what country was the ideal for practicing his economic theories, Friedman said it was the United States in the 1800s—a period he described as having great freedom for the individual, as evidenced by the fact that millions of immigrants "voted with their feet" and moved to America. Friedman forgot that slavery existed for almost two-thirds of that century and that much of the remainder was a period of stealing lands from the Indians. Unfortunately, time ran out and the professor could not be questioned on those points.

Significantly, one of Friedman's favorite expressions at the press conference was how people "voted with their feet"—such as Chinese trying to get into Hong Kong or East Germans trying to cross to West Germany—all searching for "freedom." "Voting with their feet," we recalled, was a favorite Pentagon propaganda term to describe the flight of Vietnamese War refugees.

Then came the big day, December 10 (the anniversary of Nobel's death), when the Prize ceremonies took place. This year a demonstration of about 4,000 gathered outside the Stockholm Concert Hall and moved through the streets to the Stockholm City Hall, where the Prize banquet is held shortly after the Prize-awarding ceremonies. A 24-year-old, in rented white tie and tails, and using his father's ticket to get into the ceremonies, protested the honor being bestowed on Friedman just as he was about to get the medal from the King. It was the first time a Nobel award had provoked such a demonstration: within the serious Stockholm social-academic world it was comparable to an anti-Papal demonstration on Christmas Eve at the Vatican.

Several days later, when delivering his Nobel lecture, Friedman (not realizing that Sweden guarantees the legal right to demonstrate, even against Nobel Prize winners) said that "the stench of Nazism" is blowing across many lands and Sweden was no exception. He compared the Nazi brutality against opponents and their quieting of academics with the demonstration in Stockholm. He received a good round of applause for this, and that is perhaps most significant. For the student body governing organization at the semi-private Stockholm School of Economics consists today entirely of representatives of the Conservative Party. There were no anti-Friedman demonstrations at the school.

The following day, as Friedman left Stockholm, the debate took on a new dimension. Prof. Gunnar Myrdal, Sweden's most famous economist and himself an Economics Prize winner, recommended that the Academy of Sciences be relieved of its task of awarding the Economics Prize. In a signed article in the nation's largest morning daily, *Dagens Nyheter*, Myrdal did not criticize Friedman or Friedman's theories, but was sharply critical of the "Draconian" rules of secrecy that surround the selection of the Prize winner, and also of the fact that the Academy is forced to make political value judgments in selecting the Economics winner.

Myrdal, who shared the Economics Prize in 1974 with Prof. Friedrich von Hayek, wrote, "As I see the question of the Nobel Prize today, I should by all rights have refused the Prize. . . . But at the time, I had not thought through the matter. I was only deeply moved. . . ."

Myrdal described the process for choosing the winner: the five-member Prize committee (he characterized them as "conventional economists who Americans would say are 'the Establishment' ") receives nominations early in the year, narrows its choices in the spring and summer, and presents its candidate to the economics discipline within the Academy in the fall. By then, the date for the full Academy meeting—when the final voting takes place and the winner is announced—is imminent. This leaves no time for proposal of or research into other candidates, Myrdal said. The committee "can trust the traditional Swedish loyalty" to approve its candidate. He wrote that all documents are kept secret and members bound to silence. Myrdal said that he no longer will take part in any secret meetings of the Academy, of which he has been a member "since my youth."

Myrdal wrote at length about the problems involved in selecting a winner in the "soft" sciences. "Economic research can never attain constants, or what used to be called 'natural laws.' Economic research will therefore always and necessarily be what has classically been called 'political economy.'

"Because of the widespread and poorly thought out blending of science and politics among most economists, the public and even economists will view the Economics Prize as expressing the political standpoint of the Academy, and this naturally happened in regard to Friedman. This damages the Academy. In physics or chemistry, nobody cares if the Prize winner is a radical or a reactionary, since that is irrelevant in these 'hard' sciences. Although the Economics Prize is awarded formally on the same basis as these others, it nevertheless becomes a 'political prize' especially if the Prize winner's theories have political significance."

Myrdal wrote that his sharing the prize with von Hayek was generally viewed as "a political balancing act by the Academy which honored at the same time a 'reactionary'



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economist and a 'radical' economist." He noted that he and von Hayek never collaborated and in the past quarter century hadn't even worked in the same fields. Myrdal said that many other members of the Academy of Sciences agree with him that it should be relieved of awarding the Economics Prize, since "it links physics and chemistry to the Economics Prize—as if they could be equal."

The chairman of the Economics Prize Committee, Prof. Erik Lundberg, defended the selection procedures, saying that they are exactly the same as those used by the Academy to select and name the winners of the Chemistry and Physics Prizes.

The Economics Prize is not one of the original Prizes established in the will of Alfred Nobel (Chemistry, Physics, Medicine, Literature and Peace). It was created in 1969 by the Swedish Parliament to mark the 300th anniversary of the Swedish National Bank, the world's oldest central bank. The bank annually provides the Economics Prize money, which is a sum equivalent to the individual sums for the "real" Nobel Prizes. (The money for those "real" prizes comes from interest and earnings on investments by the Nobel Foundation, which traces its wealth to the money obtained when the Alfred Nobel explosives empire was sold. Nobel, incidentally, was the world's first real multinational corporation organizer, with production units and subsidiaries in many nations.)

The debate over Friedman and the Economics Prize—and the Prize itself—continues. Some urge that the Economics Prize be dropped—and the money used for such things as scholarships for young researchers. But I doubt that this will happen: once set up, even "unreal" Nobel Prizes are not abolished.

The most important aspect of this whole controversy is that it has brought economic theory out of the ivory tower and down to the world of the average person. Friedman and Chile are responsible for that. The Economics Prize won't be the same any longer. Nor will economic theory in general. □

# URBAN AID—BANNED IN BOSTON

**SIDNEY BLUMENTHAL**

The first year of the Nixon administration was not a propitious moment to launch a new War on Poverty project. Urban Planning Aid of Cambridge, Mass., was under fire from the start, quickly earned a reputation for imagination, energy and effectiveness and is today under threat of death. The people responsible for UPA, therefore, are not only ambitious and idealistic; they are above all optimists.

Once UPA had been funded in 1968, a wide array of programs geared to low-income groups was soon operating out of its functional offices located in working-class Central Square, Cambridge. When the state proposed to run a highway through the middle of a poor Cambridge neighborhood, UPA staffers supplied valuable information to a community coalition which eventually halted the paving over of their homes. Two UPA employees edited a monthly packet of news items of interest to community newspapers; more than 100 subscribed to the free service, and many local reporters and editors attended an annual Community Media Conference staged by UPA. Special booklets detailing techniques for detecting health hazards in the workplace were written, printed and made available to any worker who wanted one. UPA, with the cooperation of the state AFL-CIO, helped to form the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health. It also published pamphlets for tenants on how to deal with rent control, housing violations and landlord harassment.

"I must say that I am impressed with this group," Harold Gore, from the Community Services Agency (formerly the Office of Economic Opportunity) Office of Operations in Washington, D.C., wrote Bill Cox, of the CSA Boston Regional Office, this year. "It is one of the few if not absolutely the only time I've seen a group working for a poverty-related cause [who themselves work] for poverty wages and in poverty circumstances—and that with extreme dedication. This is a noteworthy fact in and of itself. . . . The very fact that they have stirred up such a hornet's nest is perhaps the best evidence of the quality of their work. They have in short been effective." Unfortunately, UPA's effectiveness has also been its chief liability.

Ever since Nixon decided to gut the War on Poverty, UPA has been subject to numerous attempts by Republican-appointed bureaucrats to defund it. On Election Day, 1976, when Americans were voting to end eight years of GOP rule, the CSA Washington office, in an extraordinary move, by-passed the recommendations of its own specially selected hearing officer and of its Boston regional office, and ordered that UPA be cut off from the $240,000 in federal funds it receives annually. Polly Halfkenny, UPA's director, issued a terse statement: "Nixon's attempts to wipe out any programs assisting poor people are well known, as are Ford's cuts in all programs dealing with health care, education and welfare. The discontinuing of funds to Urban Planning Aid is more of the same."

UPA has, in fact, been defunded before. During the short-lived tenure of right-wing ideologue Howard Phillips as OEO director, UPA was placed on a list for elimination. The group recovered its money when a federal court found that Phillips held office illegally; Nixon's haste to eviscerate the remnants of the Great Society created its own obstacle. Gerald Ford's ascension to the Presidency signaled a new phase in attacks on UPA. "Our long national nightmare" may have been

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over, but UPA's ordeal continued. Between the time of the Watergate break-in and Ford's pinning a WIN button on his lapel, powerful, traditional enemies of human service programs took the measure of UPA's vulnerability.

The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce awakened to UPA's existence after the City Council approved rent control. UPA had provided informational material to the rent control advocates. A Chamber of Commerce member, George Najarian, traveled to Washington to testify in April 1975, before a House Labor subcommittee that the group was another manifestation of the Red menace. It was, he told the Congressmen, "against the basic tenets of this country" and "founded on distortions and falsehoods. . . . It is but the tip of the iceberg." What lies beneath the surface? Najarian was quick to explain. "Our investigation," he testified, "has recently turned up information which confirms our belief that UPA is only a small part of a very big picture. The big picture is that there is a planned move afoot to counter and change traditional economic theory in America with radical views at government expense." The impression the Chamber spokesman conveyed was that UPA's journalism somehow aggravated festering social grievances. What might these be? At last, Najarian told Congress that UPA "created economic chaos by organizing for adoption of rent control. It orchestrated mob rule at public hearings." There had indeed been public hearings in Cambridge about rent control; opposing speakers were alternately applauded and jeered as city councilors listened. UPA did not, however, organize for rent control but offered information to its partisans; and, with due consideration, the City Council passed it. Since its inception Cambridge property taxes have fallen.

A month after Najarian appeared on Capitol Hill two young women came to the UPA office to pick up copies of the group's literature. When they asked for staff lists they were questioned and admitted they had been sent by Bob Jones, president of the Chamber of Commerce, who instructed them to disguise their identities. After this abortive snooping, Jones and Najarian themselves appeared at UPA and requested staff lists.

Gordon Hall, a self-styled expert on "communism" and "extremists," was quietly added to the Chamber of Commerce payroll. He was paid $500 for unearthing data conclusively proving that certain individual UPA staff members had written articles in newspapers that were once called "underground." More significantly, some of the UPA staffers had belonged to student activist groups when they were in school. This eye-opening documentation was appended to a Chamber of Commerce letter urging UPA's defunding that was sent to Massachusetts Rep. Paul Tsongas. The Chamber also requested, on June 16, 1975, that the Internal Revenue Service conduct an audit of UPA, the hope being that this would provoke a loss of its tax-exempt status.

Bob Jones was sure of UPA's orientation. "These people are busy like termites trying to eat away at all our foundation," he wrote Ivan Ashley, Boston CSA regional director, on June 17, 1975. He cited as flagrant examples of "termite" behavior a UPA pamphlet instructing tenants in legal procedures and a volume entitled *Open the Books,* which explains research methods for examining corporations. On this basis, Jones asked CSA to defund UPA. A week later Jones wired his demand to President Ford.

UPA staffers whose names were bandied about by Gordon Hall countered by filing a suit charging the Chamber of Commerce with violating their right to privacy. In response to the Chamber's fevered charges, the Boston CSA regional office closely investigated reports of UPA misconduct. A team of investigators reviewed the allegations and recommended, in March 1976, that UPA be refunded. Within that same month, the Washington office overruled the Boston branch and tentatively decided to deprive UPA of federal money. The group asked that a hearing officer from outside the agency be sent to weigh the charges against it in a public hearing. The *Boston Globe* editorialized, "Few organizations in Eastern Massachusetts have been more energetic in defending the interests of the poor than UPA. . . . We believe UPA should be funded."

The Washington CSA office rejected the idea of an outside hearing officer and selected Alex Porter from the Philadelphia CSA office to preside; his recommendations would not be binding. Sixty-five community groups testified on UPA's behalf. Gov. Michael Dukakis wrote a letter supporting the group's refunding. So did Massachusetts Rep. John Joseph Moakley.

Among the most vehement witnesses testifying against UPA was a representative from the First Realty Management Corp., one of more than fifty companies owned by Max R. Kargman, the largest Federal Housing Authority landlord in Massachusetts. In the early 1960s, Kargman assisted in pioneering FHA tax shelters, ostensibly as an incentive for developers to construct low-income housing.

The trouble with housing so financed, from the viewpoint of the tenants, is that the only shelter to which owners are committed is the tax shelter. Accordingly, the properties tend to run down and the rents to run up. As Kargman himself wrote, "If the tenants were to accept economic realities [i.e., that they could no longer afford the rent], they would have to move back into their former, poorer housing and lower their standards of living. . . . Obviously, many of these tenants are going to resist."

His vision was prescient. Tenants complained about such conditions as sewage backing out of their faucets and toilets during rainstorms. And if the landlord consented to make repairs, he usually was awarded an FHA-approved rent increase. Shoddy construction, therefore, became an underlying principle for assuring maximum profits.

Kargman's FHA tenants banded together to improve their lot. More than 4,000 of them formed the Tenants First Coalition (TFC), which turned to UPA for precise information on the intricacies of the FHA program.



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UPA published a guide for their use. The ensuing battle between Kargman and his tenants has been intense. He hired private police to spy on the tenants' union, which responded to his intransigence by withholding rent and physically blocking evictions. Kargman decided that a conspiracy was afoot; he determined to act decisively. In May 1975 he filed a suit against the coalition and UPA in Suffolk County Superior Court, alleging that they "have entered into a conspiracy the purpose of which is to deprive the plaintiffs [First Realty] of their private property. The avowed goal of the defendants is to abolish private landlord ownership of FHA housing." The defendants in the suit, all 4,000 of them, were apparently charged with advocating some undefined form of socialism. The Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts entered the fray on the side of TFC and UPA, contending that Kargman's suit "attacks the very right of tenant unions to exist."

On June 21, 1976, the federal CSA hearing examiner issued his report, recommending that UPA be refunded. The Chamber of Commerce was outraged. During the summer, it mailed packets of derogatory material about UPA to Chambers of Commerce across the country. *Barron's,* the business weekly, heeded the call: in a full-page editorial on October 25, one week before the national election, it took note of the "conspiracy." "For the taxpayer," it stated, "poverty remains a no-win war." It identified the conspiracy as "payrolls . . . studded with subversives . . . backed to the hilt by do-gooders in Congress." The magazine urged the defunding of UPA. "If CSA really wants to live down the discredited past and make a fresh start it must stop doing business at the same old doctrinaire stand." A week later UPA was defunded.

The Washington CSA offered three reasons for its order: *(1)* UPA has been serving persons whose income levels are above those which establish eligibility for assistance from CSA programs. (*2*) Employees of UPA have repeatedly engaged in instances of illegal direct action. (*3*) A UPA employee . . . was involved in an activity which was . . . carried out in such a manner as to disrupt the orderly conduct of business by Congress or any other legislative body in any capitol or legislative office building.

The first charge was refuted by Porter, the federal CSA hearing officer, who said in his report that "the myriad of witnesses who testified in this area reflected that the status of their clientele included welfare recipients, the unemployed, prisoners and public housing tenants, and was such that a benefit would be derived from program activities by individuals within CSA poverty guidelines." In its Election Day edict, Washington CSA did not cite any evidence denying Porter's finding.

The second charge referred to the presence of UPA staff members at TFC efforts to halt evictions. These staffers insist that they were there as private citizens. In any case, the evictions in question were later ruled illegal.

The UPA staffer mentioned in the final charge was an FHA tenant who hung a banner in the State House during a rent control hearing. She was arrested, but the charges were dropped. State Sen. Jack Backman, a UPA supporter, told the CSA Washington office, "At best, in the Massachusetts Senate, it was not a *cause célèbre.*" Although Washington CSA's justification for defunding UPA was based on the group's violation of the law, no UPA staff member was ever tried or convicted of any offense in any court.

Jones, of the Chamber of Commerce, was still not satisfied. CSA granted UPA ninety days in which to phase itself out of existence; it was ordered to be defunct by January 31, eleven days after Jimmy Carter takes office. Jones demanded that UPA be forced to shut down immediately. He sent a mailgram on November 28 to a slew of U.S. Congressmen, stressing this request and charging that the Boston CSA regional office had granted UPA $15,000 in extra funds to defend itself against Kargman's conspiracy suit and to bring a counter-suit against the Chamber of Commerce. "They don't want to defund us. They want to stomp on us," Polly Halfkenny said. She denied that additional funds had been earmarked for the organization and noted that the suit against the Chamber of Commerce was filed by individuals, not the group. Asked where he found evidence of the extra $15,000, Jones replied, "Go to Uncle Sam to verify that just like we did."

Jack Carroll, the CSA regional official overseeing UPA's phase-out, said of Jones's allegation, "It's not true. Don't ask me why the Chamber of Commerce says that."

UPA is seeking a reversal of the CSA edict in two arenas—the Federal District Court and Carter's incoming administration. Judge W. Arthur Garrity is currently considering a motion filed by UPA to issue a preliminary injunction against its defunding. Among the members of the new Democratic administration, UPA counts Vice President-elect Walter Mondale as a supporter. Last summer, Mondale wrote in a letter to the CSA, "Many people in Minnesota feel that Urban Planning Aid is one of the best organizations that provide technical assistance to groups serving low-income communities. For example, the Minnesota Tenants Union and the St. Paul Tenants Union have made extensive use of UPA's services, and have found them invaluable. . . . I would hope that funds could be made available so that this group may continue its work."

The Nixon administration detested UPA from the start, but never quite managed to do away with a group that took the War on Poverty seriously. The Ford administration, in one of its final gestures, succeeded where Nixon failed. Now UPA presents a test for the Carter administration. Does Walter Mondale know of UPA's fate? And how much influence will he wield in the administration? Carter's devotion to the progressive domestic programs established by his Democratic predecessors may be gauged by his action, or inaction, in the UPA case. □



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THOSE RUSTY TANKERS

# THE THREAT TO OUR SHORES

**PETER J. BERNSTEIN**

The spate of recent tanker accidents dumping millions of gallons of heavy industrial oil along the Atlantic edge is a harbinger of worse spills to come. If we are capable of learning anything from these disasters after all those expensive Exxon commercials, it is that the dangers inherent in the mass transportation of petroleum threaten incalculable damage to our coastal environment.

It is a long story of the frustration of this country's effort to prevent maritime catastrophes such as the break-up of the *Argo Merchant* on the Nantucket shoals. The frustration has several sources: our national indifference to foreign oil dependency; the financial troubles of independent tanker owners who were hard hit by the drop in world oil demand following the 1973 Arab embargo; legislative politics, and the ability of oil and shipping interests to avoid tanker safety regulations by registering their vessels under foreign "flags of convenience."

Behind it all is the power of the Seven Sisters (Exxon, Mobil, SoCal, Texaco, Gulf, B.P. and Shell), the international oil cartel whose fleets dominate world shipping.

Today the United States imports 45 per cent of the oil it consumes, as opposed to 36 per cent before the Arab embargo. Imports by next summer are expected to reach 50 per cent as domestic production continues to decline. Upward of 330 million gallons of oil a day will have to be brought in by tanker—an amount equal to thirty-five *Argo Merchant* loads a day. One thing seems certain: as tanker traffic increases, so does the likelihood of mishaps, for the shipping of oil into the United States is, for all practical purposes, unregulated. Roughly 95 per cent of the oil from abroad is carried in foreign tankers whose operation remains essentially beyond U.S. control outside the 3-mile territorial limit.

Ever since the Liberian tanker *Torrey Canyon* ran aground on the rocks off the coast of Cornwall in 1967 and a drilling blowout left Santa Barbara beaches covered with black goo two years later, the world has been acutely aware of the horrendous mess—and wildlife destruction—that massive oil spills cause. Yet the oil industry, for all its technological bravado, still cannot contain an oil spill in swells greater than 4 feet, not to mention its impotence in the pounding Atlantic.

So far the oil industry has encountered no serious obstacle in its attempts to maximize profits, even though the proliferation of tankers and deep-sea drilling pose problems of potentially enormous magnitude: topographic and environmental upheavals from oil spills and chemical wastes in a sea already seriously contaminated by indiscriminate dumping.

The oil industry maintains a discreet silence whenever a tanker disaster occurs—since mid-December, there were three tanker catastrophes in or near U.S. waters, plus the disappearance of a Panamanian tanker somewhere in the North Atlantic, as well as five other serious tanker accidents involving Liberian ships. Global oil firms, after all, are disinclined to take a stand against incompetent shippers—that would be fratricide. The Seven Sisters, according to *Lloyd's Register*, operate, either through direct ownership or chartering, well over half of the tankers registered under flags of convenience—Liberia, Panama, Honduras, Cyprus, Malta and Bermuda. None of the Sisters wants to lose the attendant financial benefits of such registry.

Since 1949, when Stavros Niarchos placed his 26,000-ton tanker *World Peace* under the Liberian flag, the multinational giants and their cronies in Athens and Hong Kong have used flags of convenience for one essential reason—it's much cheaper.

Because of these arrangements, U.S.-based oil and shipping firms do not have to pay American corporate taxes, build ships in American yards, pay union wages to American crews or submit to American safety standards and inspection, however weak. Instead of an income tax, the firms pay the government of Liberia, for example, a modest annual registration fee based on ship tonnage.

Led by Exxon and Texaco, U.S.-based multinationals own roughly a third of Liberia's 1,000-odd tankers, the world's largest fleet by far. The Liberian vessels range from the giant supertankers operated by Exxon to those run by such shadowy outfits as Amerships, Inc., which operates a fleet of eight second-hand ships, each owned, on paper, by a separate Liberian corporation. One of the eight was the *Argo Merchant*. It can take as little as a day to register a ship in the tiny West African republic. Few questions are asked when the ownership of these ships changes hands.

One recalls Noel Mostert's *Supership*, published two years ago. It was eloquent on the dangers inherent in ocean-going tankers—warning about design features such as single engines, single bottoms, poor maintenance, overworked crews, and the sloughing off of aging tankers to absentee owners who would then register them in flag-of-convenience countries with minimum standards for ship safety. The hazards are even greater today because of the financial slump in world shipping. With about 400 tankers laid up in port because of the drop in world oil demand, tanker owners are pressuring crews to cut corners. Some shippers have gone bankrupt; others are hoping the oil companies will bail them out.

*Lloyd's List*, the register put out by Lloyd's 1,400 agents around the world, shows a record number of tanker accidents in 1976. Liberian vessels accounted for more than their share of mishaps. Nine of the sixteen tankers lost at sea were registered by Liberia, a nation known for its

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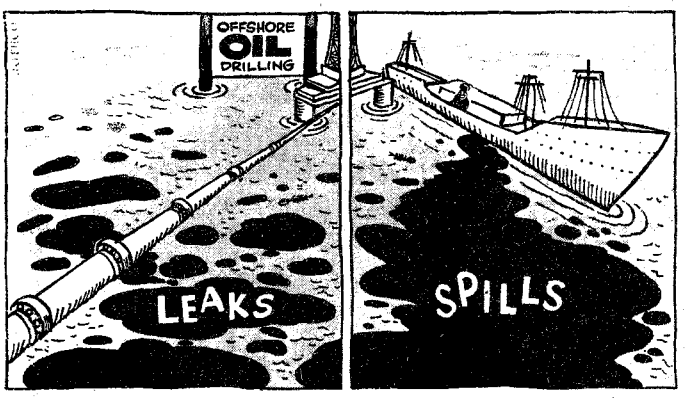
lenient safety regulations. Though it has no navy, Liberia is bound under international maritime law to police Liberian-registered ships on the high seas. The Liberian Government has assigned responsibility for investigating the *Argo Merchant* disaster to a five-member board of inquiry, composed primarily of U.S. citizens who regulate Liberia's fleet. After all, it was Americans who wrote the laws which attracted tanker owners to the tiny republic. The American coordinating the investigation is Fred Lininger, senior vice president of a Washington-based conglomerate, the International Bank Ltd., which has its headquarters on Pennsylvania Avenue across the street from the White House.

No surprise, then, that the Liberian fleet's staunchest defenders rank high in the U.S. Coast Guard, now a branch of the Transportation Department, which regulates merchant shipping. Rear Adm. William Benkert, who is in charge of maritime safety, told me that "the majority of Liberian flag vessels are good vessels. . . . They are safe and they are properly manned." There are a few substandard Liberian ships such as the *Argo Merchant* and the vessel that exploded last month in Los Angeles harbor, he said, but the Panamanian and Cypriot fleets tend to be worse.

The Coast Guard, under severe criticism for not having immediately burned the grounded *Argo Merchant* to prevent a spill, considers the accident a fluke, the "result, pure and simple, of poor navigation." As with other shipping accidents beyond the 3-mile limit, the Coast Guard can only guess at the cause; it has no authority under international law to investigate, and the captain and crew can refuse to answer questions. (They have testified in one of the court cases brought as a result of the accident.)

Concerned about the national security risk involved in having foreign flag vessels carrying virtually all our imported oil, Congress last year passed legislation requiring that U.S. tankers carry 30 per cent of the imported petroleum. Budget-minded oil companies opposed the bill, and Ford vetoed it. But Sen. Warren Magnuson and other sponsors of the bill are certain to revive it, hoping for support from the incoming Carter administration. It's an important measure from a safety standpoint, and it would mean that the United States would have to build a new tanker fleet to carry the oil. The ships would have many of the safety features that foreign-flag ships usually lack—double engines, double hulls, segregated ballasts, sophisticated navigation equipment and well-trained crews to operate them.

There may be some consolation in the recent tanker accidents if President Carter approves this cargo preference bill, if for no other reason than that it would put a lot of people at shipyards back to work. The new administration can mandate tighter standards for tanker construction and operation, but it faces the more immediate problem of coping with new threats to the coastal environment at a time of ever higher oil imports. Saving energy, to be sure, is demonstrably cheaper and environmentally safer than importing oil by tanker or stepping up domestic oil production. The nation could save a lot of scarce




Liederman, Long Island Press

*Do We Have a Choice?*

resources if it achieved the full potential of energy conservation. But until cars are wrapped in fiberglass and powered with fuel cells, until the oil industry's heavy and reluctant hands can be loosened from the huge resources of oil shale and tar sands which it owns, until new technology taps energy from wind, wave and sun, what is to be done? The problem of making tankers safer is difficult, but not insoluble.

Four years ago Congress enacted a Ports and Waterways Safety Act. That law empowered the Coast Guard to issue rules and regulations designed to minimize shipping hazards, including dangers to the coastal environment. Specifically, new rules were to reduce the chance that improperly equipped and manned ships would collide or go aground, as two Liberian tankers did recently at great cost to the bird life and estuaries of the Delaware River.

The Coast Guard has moved to carry out its duties under the law at a leisurely pace that reflects its reluctance to assume them in the first place. It has formulated rules and regulations for American vessels in domestic trade but has yet to make final those covering foreign ships or American ships in foreign trade. In any case, none of the regulations is regarded as nearly adequate by those who took part in the legislative fight for the 1972 Act.

One of the environmental leaders in that battle, Eldon Greenberg of the Center for Law and Social Policy, has said that the Coast Guard's failure to comply with statutory deadlines in the law has had a detrimental effect on port safety. As Greenberg pointed out in testimony before Magnuson's Senate Commerce Committee, the Coast Guard stalled even after the United Nations maritime agency in 1973 approved a compromise international convention calling for segregated ballast and other tanker safety features.

Rather than move swiftly to set standards for ocean-going tankers entering and leaving U.S. ports, the Coast Guard attended to other matters. While it delayed, literally hundreds of new tankers were ordered. To make matters worse, Greenberg said, the tanker boom of the early 1970s has gone bust, and therefore it is unlikely that many new tankers will be ordered during the next ten years. Insofar as the Coast Guard has chosen not to make major



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design and construction requirements retroactive, its delay, he said, has effectively exempted "hundreds of new oil tankers from meaningful standards and virtually insured that the design and construction requirements of the law are little more than dead letters."

This country still has not ratified the 1973 U.N. convention. Nor has any other maritime power done so. The convention, in order to take effect, requires the signatures of seafaring nations whose fleets amount to half of the world's tonnage.

What seems surprising about the failure of maritime nations to ratify the convention is that it is tailored to suit multinational shippers. The Coast Guard's regulations for segregated ballast tanks in new U.S. ships are

## OFFSHORE DRILLING RIGHTS

An alternative to cutting down on oil consumption or continuing the risky importation by tanker is to accelerate offshore drilling in yet untapped regions of the continental shelf. But deep-sea drilling in the Atlantic and Pacific involves serious environmental sacrifices. It means the risk of additional subterranean blowouts, still more tankers to carry oil to shore, tank farms and other ancillary oil facilities. Some of the most valuable and vulnerable shorelines in the world—bluffs and dunes, salt marshes, sandy beaches—will be irretrievably lost in the next few years, filled in, built upon, polluted and otherwise eroded by man.

A more prudent course would be to determine, through a program of federal exploratory drilling, if frontier areas such as Georges Bank off New England and the Gulf of Alaska possess sufficient amounts of oil and gas to warrant large-scale production under stringent environmental controls. A strong case can be made for leaving the oil in the ground, particularly if the oil field is relatively small, for use in coming years when the scarcity of fossil fuels will make it even more valuable in chemical and foodstuff production. At the very minimum, Congress should insist that the government sale of offshore drilling rights should be delayed pending the enactment of legislation that gives coastal states a greater policy-making role in oil development and reforms the leasing procedure so that independent oil and gas companies can bid against major producers. Last year Ford vetoed such a bill, because the major oil companies objected in particular to a provision authorizing the Interior Department to do its own exploratory drilling. Every other oil-producing nation finds out the extent of its reserves before selling oil-production rights.

The measure, which would revamp offshore drilling regulations for the first time since 1953, appears to have the support of the Carter administration. It has strong backing from most coastal states, the AFL-CIO, and small natural-gas producers organized into a group called the Associated Gas Distributors. These independent gas producers would benefit from the bill's provision which is aimed at increasing the competition in bidding. It would allow firms with relatively little ready cash to bid on leases by requiring that drilling rights to a third of the leases in offshore frontier areas be sold under bidding systems other than the present cash bonus system, which narrows the field of eligible bidders to companies that can afford to tie up large amounts of cash in obtaining leases. When the Interior Department last fall sold rights to some 800,000 acres of potential oil and gas deposits in the Baltimore Canyon trough off New Jersey, more than 80 per cent of the leases went to the six biggest oil companies. Exxon alone was high bidder on a third of the leases in the $1.1-billion sale.

Sen. Edward Kennedy and Environmental Protection Administrator Russell Train have called for a delay in the Georges Bank lease sale, now scheduled for May, until marine scientists can determine the full impact of the *Argo Merchant* spill. But the impetus for accelerated offshore production is strong. Major oil companies expect to have five drilling rigs operating off New Jersey this spring. Other rigs are being assembled in the Gulf of Alaska and, at the Interior Department's request, the oil companies have nominated new tracts they want to explore off Santa Barbara.

Ford's proposal to grant statehood to Puerto Rico fits neatly into the oil industry's offshore plans. It appears that the statehood idea was pushed by the Interior Department in an effort to insure American control of oil deposits believed to lie from 2½ to 10 miles off the island's north coast. As a self-governing Commonwealth, Puerto Rico has been negotiating with Interior for jurisdiction to 200 miles, contending that it has such autonomy under the international Law of the Sea convention. Ford's statehood proposal would place a 3-mile limit on Puerto Rico, the same as that accorded all U.S. coastal states. Mobil and an Exxon subsidiary have been negotiating with the island's government to carry out further offshore explorations and extract the petroleum, if found. Puerto Rico's oil promises to be a hotly debated issue at the coming spring session of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference.

The Governors of a number of coastal states, particularly Brendan Byrne of New Jersey and Jay Hammond of Alaska, can attest to Interior's extreme reluctance to give states even an advisory role in offshore energy development. According to a recent report of Congress's Office of Technology Assessment, "policies being made at top levels of the Interior Department still do not adequately reflect the fact that decisions about offshore energy development no longer can be made unilaterally by the federal government but must be shared with state governments."

Oil companies are required to submit oil exploration, development and production plans to Interior. A new law requires that copies of the plans be submitted to states with coastlines that would be affected by planned offshore drilling. The hitch is that a state must have a coastal zone management plan approved by the federal government before it can veto offshore drilling or coastal energy development. Of thirty states that have developed such plans, only that of the state of Washington has won federal approval.

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taken verbatim from the extremely mild convention of the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO). The rules are limited to large tankers of at least 70,000 deadweight tons that were ordered after January 1, 1976. Exempted from the segregated ballast rule are hundreds of existing tankers, including a number of supertankers that were ordered shortly before the requirement was published. The effect of "grandfathering" the existing fleet is to nullify the segregated ballast rule. Tankers without segregated ballast dump oily wastes into the ocean during tank cleaning, accounting for about 90 per cent of oil pollution. Such dumping would stop if tankers had to adopt a new method that Exxon and B.P. developed in which tanks are cleaned at sea.

The tanker issue that best illustrates the Coast Guard's flouting of the safety law is its refusal to require double bottoms on tankers. The Coast Guard announced in the *Federal Register* in 1974 that it was considering such a requirement. Its own studies had shown that double bottoms would be 90 per cent effective in preventing spills following tanker groundings. After the close of the formal comment period in such rule-setting procedures, the Coast Guard organized a study group to evaluate tanker designs. That study group, although it constituted an advisory group subject to federal law requiring open disclosure, was established without public notice and met without public notice in sessions closed to the public.

Every nongovernmental member of this advisory committee was associated with the U.S. oil or shipping industry. (The oil interests represented were Chevron, Mobil, Gulf and Texaco.) The chairman of the group was a noted and vocal opponent of any mandatory double-bottom or double-hull rule, as were several other members. No proponent of mandatory double bottoms or hulls was included in its membership, and not a single representative of the environmental community was asked or permitted to participate in its deliberations. The committee advised against requiring double bottoms and, not surprisingly, the Coast Guard accepted its recommendation.

The Coast Guard says that its original study favoring double bottoms was based on oil spill data for 1969 and 1970, two atypical years when there were an unusual number of groundings. It says mishaps in subsequent years show that double bottoms would be less effective and not worth the cost, and that in some situations they might rupture and hinder salvage operations.

The oil industry, of course, backs up the Coast Guard. Congress's Office of Technology Assessment, on the other hand, sharply disagrees. It found that "double bottoms offer a significant degree of protection from oil pollution in the event of a grounding accident." It said that the added cost of double bottoms would range from 2.5 to 4 per cent of construction and operating costs—less than half the Coast Guard's estimate—and that the presumed safety problems either do not exist or can be alleviated with proper design.

Seven national environmental groups have taken court action against the Coast Guard on the ground that it has failed effectively to implement the 1972 Safety Act. The groups are the Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, Wilderness Society, National Wildlife Federation, Environmental Defense Fund, National Parks and Conservation Association and Friends of the Earth.

Aside from failing to implement the most basic safety measures, the Coast Guard has declined to use the 1972 Ports and Waterways Safety Act as an engine for reform. The law's chief purpose was to go beyond the weak international convention and give a much-needed lead to other seafaring nations. As of this writing, four years after the Act's passage, the Coast Guard still has not set a single standard to improve vessel maneuvering and stopping ability. It has not set any standards for tanker performance or design features, or for manning, licensing and training tanker crews.

The oil and shipping firms prefer the status quo. They oppose any U.S. initiative to keep out substandard tankers for fear that other countries might retaliate by setting their own safety standards. "No one country can legislate for the world," Mobil said in opposing Congressional calls for U.S. action in the wake of the *Argo Merchant* disaster. "International standards are the only answer for the design and operation of supertankers and for the protection of the oceans and coastlines," Mobil said. A spokesman for the American Petroleum Institute, the oil industry's lobbying arm in Washington, declared that Coast Guard action against substandard tankers beyond the 3-mile limit would be "tantamount to piracy." It seems that on maritime matters the oil industry has embraced the U.N.

Given the oil industry's eagerness to use supertankers, the government has approved plans for developing two offshore platforms, or "superports," in the Gulf of Mexico. The reason is that not a single East Coast or Gulf Coast port can accommodate any of those mammoth seagoing tankers weighing as much as 500,000 deadweight tons. Concerned about the potential for oil spills, Atlantic coastal states regard the monster-sized tankers with almost universal dread. But oil interests maintain that supertankers are fast becoming the only economically feasible means for carrying oil long distances, and with America's fuel imports growing at such a rate, the question is not whether the big ships will be used but at which offshore ports.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has selected a site 13 miles off Long Branch, N.J., not far from the most heavily used beaches and resort areas along the Atlantic, for a superport. As now envisioned, oil from the supertankers would be pumped from offshore buoys through 48-inch pipelines to storage tanks on shore. From the tanks, the oil would be piped directly to nearby refineries or elsewhere along the coast by small tankers. New Jersey's chief of marine resources has warned that oil pollution from a superport spill would generate ocean pollution "equivalent to the raw untreated sewage of 845,000 people." In an area where tourism is the biggest industry, the danger could hardly be more pronounced.

Before new oil disasters strike, it would be well for



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the Carter administration to support companion bills introduced by Senator Magnuson and Rep. Gerry Studds of Massachusetts to hold tanker owners and offshore drillers liable for full cleanup costs and property damage. Now there is no protection for shore-front property owners and fishermen who sustain economic losses from a spill.

Oil pollution is certain to become increasingly serious if the United States takes no immediate steps to insure the safe operation of tankers carrying more than 300 million gallons of oil a day. *Lloyd's Register* shows there are 596 tankers currently in use that were built at least twenty years ago. Many are rust buckets like the *Argo Merchant*, with a long history of groundings and equipment failures, and should be scrapped or banned from U.S. ports unless a survey, made at the shipowners' expense, shows them capable of safe operation.

Tankers should be required to have tug escorts and collision avoidance radar. Any tanker entering U.S. waters should have the necessary navigation equipment and be held responsible for testing it to detect malfunctions while still on the high seas. Radar systems to facilitate traffic control need to be installed in every major tanker port, especially along the congested Atlantic seaboard where two-thirds of the imported oil is unloaded.

Preference should be given to newer vessels that are soundly constructed with double bottoms, have sophisticated navigation equipment, and are well manned. As Noel Mostert observed in *Supership*: "Any major oil importer (which adopted stricter safety standards) would soon make its impact felt upon all new ships, and upon all older ships that would justify the expense of reconstruction."

Reversing the Coast Guard's mindless policy of allowing shipping interests to maximize profits at the expense of the marine environment will not be easy. Even the oil companies should now recognize the urgency of reducing the threat to navigation, to offshore fisheries, and to the integrity of our coasts. □

SOUTH KOREAN EXPOSURE

# BAD NEWS FOR PRESIDENT PARK

**JAMES STENTZEL**

*Seoul*

A world already concerned about repression, political instability and the threat of nuclear war in south Korea* has in recent weeks been given another potential danger to worry about. Questions are being raised concerning President Park Chung Hee's mental and emotional stability.

As bad news is piled on top of bad news, Park is described by insiders here as alternately raging at his staff and sitting back, dumb and bewildered. Comparisons are being made between Park and Adolf Hitler and Richard Nixon as their respective downward spirals began. The 59-year-old dictator has always shown a cool genius. He has consistently out-finessed his enemies with a military precision befitting his army background. His troops, whether in military or civilian garb, have always remained loyal. But now he is reeling from a series of blows.

One of Park's key foreign strategies, the bribery of U.S. politicians and the cooptation of academics, is being exposed. The Ford administration is not only failing to put a lid on the scandal but is also refusing to deny reports of a U.S. "bug" in Park's Blue House. Trusted lieutenants in the all-powerful Korean CIA are suspected of treason. The new administrations taking over in Washington and Tokyo may not be willing or able to give him the total support to which he has been accustomed. And Korean students, after eighteen months of relative calm, are once again demonstrating their opposition to dictatorship and repression.

The news from Washington has so infuriated Park that on numerous occasions he has "begun screaming like a raving lunatic," according to a Korean source. An American diplomat who carefully chooses his words describes not only Park but his Cabinet as "psychotic." "Park has always been fanatic about control," says another diplomat. "Now he is just fanatic, as that control is threatened." The President's uncontrollable anger in private is only slightly veiled in statements he has ordered his officials to make public. Some of these have threatened retaliation against Washington in strident, accusatory language usually reserved for his messages to the north Korean government.

The frequency and intensity of Park's emotional outbursts is itself unprecedented. But his other response to bad news—simply not believing key U.S. Government statements on the unfolding scandal or even that Carter was really elected—shows a related and deeper problem. The President and the government he commands are showing unmistakable signs of losing touch with changing world realities. The problem appears to be linked to two years of total government suppression of everything but good news. Today there is every indication that the government is able to believe only that good news.

The Park regime has always defined bad news as that which can be suppressed by force at home and simply

*Korean practice is to avoid the use of capital letters for "north" and "south" Korea, lest the impression be given that the country —Korea—has been irrevocably split into two parts.

*James Stentzel is a missionary-journalist based in Tokyo.*



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bought off with cash, women, parties, trips and honorary degrees abroad. The formula has worked magnificently for so long that the President is both outraged and made incredulous by its sudden and inexplicable collapse—especially in official Washington where a most friendly administration is still in power. To Park, the developments in Washington seem unreal because they seem out of control. If Park can keep his Fascist house in order, why, he wonders, couldn't the more powerful Ford do the same —buying the election and burying the scandal?

Park's critical concern is not only that Ford and Kissinger are on the way out; it covers also his feeling that these two trusted friends betrayed and abandoned him during their final months in office. Both Ford and Kissinger had visited Seoul in the midst of the harshest repression and the heaviest bribing, and had bestowed America's blessings on Park. As Nixon appointees, both agreed to continue the Korea policy set by Nixon in January 1973: silence regarding all of Park's and the KCIA's activities, partly as a way to thank the President for sending 308,000 Korean soldiers to Vietnam. Now Park feels stabbed in the back. He sees these same two men conspiring to a different kind of silence regarding the recent spate of bad news. Park sees them as intentionally and dangerously undermining something that in south Korea means everything—the President's unquestionable authority.

As Park clawed his way to dictatorial control, he alone set up the equation whereby merely to question his authority meant seriously to undermine it. If one understands this First Rule of Park and the military mind behind it, then one can understand the particular kind of bad news which of late has most upset the President. For example, while Park is obviously upset by the steady flow of revelations from Washington, he reportedly was most violently angry over the defection of Kim Sang Keun, the KCIA's number-two man in the United States. Park had ordered him back to Seoul, but Kim chose Thanksgiving Day to begin voluntarily spilling out the details of the Korean scandal in exchange for political asylum. Disloyalty in the ranks is the highest crime in Park's book, and the President is said to be still shocked by Kim's incomprehensible and treasonable act. He has authorized angry pronouncements that Kim, who had diplomatic immunity, is being held in "forced detention" by the Americans.

Kim's defection followed another revelation which continues to provoke even stronger passions in the Blue House. In October, *The Washington Post* disclosed not only that Park had personally directed the U.S. bribery scheme for six years but also that U.S. intelligence sources know this from their bugging of the Blue House.

The news reportedly sent Park into a series of fast burns—first when the State Department and the U.S. Embassy failed to deny the story, and then when undenied rumors began circulating in high levels here that the U.S.'s "bug" was not necessarily electronic but possibly an "agent in place." Again, this raised the specter of high crime: treason not only in distant Washington but in the inner sanctum of the Seoul government itself. The effects of this are pervasive, with no one here being quite sure who can be trusted now. The problem is compounded by foreign news reports of the scandal and bugging which continue to trickle into Korea despite tight government press controls and customs checks. Such reports led to an anti-government demonstration by 300 to 500 Seoul National University students in early December.

Adding to Park's fears are prospects that one of the cornerstones of his climb to power—total U.S. military support—may be coming up for more than perennial review. President-elect Carter campaigned on the promise that he would gradually withdraw both the 42,000 U.S. military personnel and the hundreds of tactical nuclear weapons in south Korea. And Carter has already gone beyond Nixon and Ford by at least *saying* that he will act to defend human rights abroad.

Knowing where Carter stood, Park in the final weeks before November 4 acted in a way that has now become characteristic: he simply wished away any chance of the Georgian's victory. While this left him incredulous when the results came in, it apparently has not changed his habit of wishful thinking. Park and the press and public he controls persist in wishing away and papering over the cracks in U.S.-ROK relations. For example, newspapers daily remind everyone in bold headlines that Carter-Vance will certainly continue the Korea policies of Ford-Kissinger, including the full military commitment.

No matter how, or how fast, U.S. policy toward Korea changes, Park is clearly boxing himself further into a corner. The more he explains the world to his people on his terms, the more trouble he will have to justify himself and explain away developments which don't go exactly his way. On top of this, his own narrow and entrenched way of governing permits few if any changes in either international diplomacy or internal repression. To reform is to admit that the master was wrong, and the master is never wrong—just read the south Korean newspapers.

But despite Park's apparent personal instability, and the deeper political instability which underlies it, the President seems firmly in control here for the time being. The complete militarization of society still stands as a monument to his dictatorial genius. However, even if Park continues to win most of his domestic battles, he may be losing the international war. He needs a diplomatic coup or two, but his greatest expertise seems restricted to military coups. While no one in Seoul can clearly foresee how Park's troubles will work out in the long run, people have become accustomed to expecting the worst. It is suggested that the very unpredictability of the current situation increases the chance that Park's new behavior will lead to some rash act. If U.S.-south Korean relations are not a totally new game, then at least the rules have changed. A chink has been exposed in Park's armor, and the supposition is not so much that his many enemies will immediately rush in as that he might, militarily or otherwise, overcompensate for the visible deficiency.



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The fact is that Park is being dragged, angry and unbelieving, onto strange new ground. The world he molded in his own image is now threatening to mold him. The man who excelled in exploiting others' weaknesses now faces the prospect that his own will be exploited. The well-justified daily fears and paranoia of the 35 million south Korean people are, for the first time in Park's fifteen years of military-style rule, beginning to lash back at their maker.

Park doesn't know the word *retreat* except as something everyone else does when he faces them down. So in recent weeks he has taken a number of initiatives in an attempt to regain control of the situation. He has reshuffled his Cabinet, installed a new KCIA chief and increased patrols on Korean college campuses. Hoping to mollify U.S. Congressional critics, he has permitted slight reductions in the long prison terms of eighteen well-known Korean Christians who signed a "Declaration for Democratic National Salvation" last March 1 [see Stentzel: "The South Korean Trap," *The Nation,* April 10, 1976]. He has ordered two key figures in the Washington scandal—"businessman" Park Tong Sun and KCIA Washington station chief Maj. Gen. Kim Yung Hwan—out of the United States. But these are seen as stopgaps in an exposé that continues to unravel and which by any reasonable expectation should lead to multiple indictments by the U.S. Department of Justice.

As the exposé keeps uncovering new material, Park remains puzzled by the possible political motives behind it. His conspiratorial mind naturally suspects a broad-based plot led by present and former State Department officials. Some American commentators have responded that Park doesn't understand something called the "Watergate mentality" in the United States. While this may have some validity, it misses the major point. If Washington's investigation of the Korean scandal does not have a political motive, then it should, and Park should be made to hear it.

The war in Vietnam, and the sharp divisions of that era, have receded far enough to permit Americans a more sober look at U.S. policy in Asia. What they have discovered is frightening—a dangerously overextended commitment to a repressive, unstable south Korean regime that is holding the United States hostage both politically and militarily. By pursuing the scandal to its roots, Americans may also be able to begin dealing with this reality. Nixon's four-year-old moratorium on "interfering in the affairs of a sovereign ally," which licensed Park's march to dictatorship, could be pronounced a dead letter.

For these very reasons, there are doubts as to how far the U.S. Government, and particularly the new administration, will permit the investigation to go. The Park government hopes that the whole sordid case will gradually die or fall between the cracks of the 94th and 95th Congresses. Officials here are aware that the U.S. Congress has never excelled at cleaning itself up. And if for some reason the scandal is deprived of an early burial, Park can be expected to exploit it internally on nationalistic, anti-American grounds—emphasizing the unique Korean military situation and social customs and berating Americans who "don't understand."

From the vantage point of Seoul, it appears that wishing away the scandal could become Park's one success after a series of stinging reversals. The investigation at least appears to have slowed, and it has raised as many questions as answers: With sixty to ninety Congressmen reportedly involved in the bribes, why are so few being investigated in depth? If the Justice Department has

Oliphant, The Washington Star

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known of the bribes for at least three years and has been investigating them for fully eighteen months, how can it still claim a lack of evidence for prosecutions? Why is the American CIA, which taught the KCIA most of its tricks, not being pulled fully into the investigation? Why are investigators apparently letting allegedly implicated former Congressmen like Otto Passman, Louisiana's rice dealer, off the hook? In related developments, how far will the Pentagon push the matter of alleged scandal involving defense contracts let in south Korea? Will the ROK government's million-dollar gifts, offered to Columbia and taken by Harvard, be fully investigated? Will KCIA harassment of Korean-Americans lead to indictments?

And, perhaps most important, will the State Department, which has cooperated with the Justice Department in investigation, soon ask its price? Will it insist to Carter that a south Korea destabilized by Park's scandal now requires the U.S. military presence more than ever?

In the midst of all these questions, Koreans in the know remain deeply impressed by how well most of the major U.S. media have been able to keep the story not only alive but vividly so for nine months. They sincerely hope that the U.S. press and public will not tire now and settle for half an investigation. From this country, American coverage of the scandal is striking not only for the contrast it presents to south Korea's totally censored media but also because it is generally assumed that American journalists have been offered many of the same bribes and favors as have U.S. Congressmen. It is also generally assumed that few if any of these bribes have been accepted. The test is in the product, and Koreans say they have found most U.S. investigative and general reporting —with the prominent exception of Jack Anderson's column—remarkably accurate on major south Korean developments in recent years. Yet these Koreans offer one criticism of the U.S. media's scandal coverage: in their fascination with elaborate KCIA cocktail and dinner parties for Congressmen in Georgetown clubs, the media have consistently neglected to remind the world that the same KCIA continues to sponsor "parties" of an utterly different sort for dissidents in south Korea. □

'HEAVY MANNERS' IN JAMAICA

# Michael Manley's Race with Time

**ARTHUR BONNER**

Sam Sharpe Square, dusty, bedraggled, with a fountain and iron fretwork recalling a now-dim British past, was crowded, the pale light picking out a foreground of wide-eyed, dark faces. Full-page advertisements had summoned the faithful of the ruling People's National Party (PNP) to Montego Bay and Sharpe Square. This was to be the start of a new campaign for Democratic Socialism.

Lumbering country buses, Volkswagen minivans, banana trucks, farm pickups and cars converged from St. Ann and St. Mary, St. Elizabeth and St. Thomas, Westmoreland and Portland, from Kingston and St. Andrew, and the rest of the fourteen parishes of Jamaica. Inside them, the same press of bodies saluted passing cars with raised right arms and clenched fists and the shout, "Manners."

"Heavy manners" is a Jamaican slogan. It means strong discipline. That's what they would do to the opposition Jamaican Labor Party (JLP)—put it under heavy manners.

It has become routine to describe Michael Manley, the Prime Minister of Jamaica, as a leftist. To Americans, that is a code word, signaling hostility toward the United States. When it is applied to a man who has embraced Fidel Castro it might seem a statement of fact. But Americans may be seeing an enemy where there is none; more important they may bring about an estrangement that it is in America's interest to avoid.

Jamaica is part of the Third World. The ethnocentric conceit that Afro-Asian countries are simply poorer versions of some European model is the illusion that has prevented an understanding of modern India. It is the illusion that lured the United States into the swamp of Vietnam.

At the meeting in Sharpe Square there were many speeches with many songs to revive flagging enthusiasm: verse from the platform, chorus from the crowd. Hips moving, arms upraised, a Caribbean beat; the bubbling of human juices; a large cowhide drum, a conch shell and a tall metal scraper the only music.

Then he came, Comrade Mike. But that was not his name that night. Throughout the evening the crowd sang: "Don't trouble Joshua, don't trouble Joshua, don't trouble Joshua. Joshua is a lion now, my leader is a lion. Don't trouble Joshua, now."

He said the opposition lied, making headline references to what he described as old lies. "The Russian ships." "They lie," the crowd responded. "We would take away the land." "They lie." "We would cut a man's cow in half." "They lie." "They say we are going Communist." "They lie."

Manley warned the faithful to be vigilant, to be disciplined, to "learn ideology." He said: "I command you to work hard. If you work in a tourist town, I command you to treat our visitors with respect."

It was almost ten o'clock. A long box was brought forward. Manley took from it a cane with an ivory handle given him by the late Haile Selassie during a visit to Jamaica in 1966. Joshua's Rod; Rod of Correction. The

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crowd became delirious—pounding of the drum, blowing of the conch shell, a forest of bodies swaying, singing, arms shaking like branches in a storm.

After that night, Manley and the PNP went on to a landslide victory in the December 15th elections, winning forty-seven out of sixty seats in Parliament. The crushing defeat of the JLP seems to have ended the even balance that the two parties had maintained since the first general elections in 1944. Jamaica may now see a long period of one-party rule.

Manley is 52 years old; tall, deep-voiced and fair-skinned. He is the son of former Jamaican Premier Norman Manley and a British mother. He was educated at the London School of Economics. In a long speech at the budget session of the Jamaican Parliament in May of last year, he quoted from the final speech made by his father to a meeting of the People's National Party in 1968:

"The mission of my generation was to win self-government for Jamaica. . . . And what is the mission of the generation that succeeds me? . . . It is to be made up of the youth of your political power, tackling and reconstructing the social and economic society and life of Jamaica."

Manley pointed out that these words were spoken six years after Jamaica attained independence in 1962. By then, thirty years had passed since the strikes of 1938 led to adult suffrage and the elections of 1944. Thirty years had passed, he said, and the economic and social reconstruction of Jamaica had not begun. "That was to be the mission of our generation," he said. "And that is what I accept as my political mission in life."

Jamaica, slightly smaller than Connecticut, has an English history older than most states of the United States and a Spanish history going back to Columbus himself. Its people, however, are not English or Spanish; they are of African ancestry. Just as the United States is an extension of Europe into the New World, Jamaica is an extension of Africa.

There are obvious similarities with Africa in music and food and language. The Jamaicans speak English, but not standard English. Although perhaps only about 400 African words survive, the grammar is largely influenced by Twi and other languages of the west coast of Africa. So is the pronunciation. Phonemes and consonants missing in African languages are missing in "Jamaica talk."

There are similarities in religion. In Africa, there is a circle made up of God, plants, animals, man and spirits. When people say that blacks, American or Jamaican, are "religious" it is this long arm of the African past that they are seeing; religion not isolated from daily routines but suffusing all of life. The slaves in Jamaica did not convert to Christianity. They converted the Bible to their own uses, particularly the Old Testament. They saw themselves as Jews in slavery, seeking Zion.

In Sharpe Square, the antiphonal singing, the references to God and Joshua, were pure black religion. Manley and the crowd supported and reinforced one another's identity. The African bond of an all-encompassing religion was renewed. They called him Joshua—the man who led the tribes into Israel.

The Jamaicans first sighted Zion in the booming 1960s. The bauxite industry developed; tourist hotels went up in Montego Bay and a new resort complex sprouted in Ocho Rios. Hotels, banks and insurance companies created a new skyline in Kingston and from construction profits the rich bought villas in Beverly Hills. The unemployed and surplus population of the farms swarmed to Kingston, Spanish Town, Montego Bay and the smaller towns, so that in less than a generation one-third of the population lived in urban areas. But prosperity was an illusion.

Jamaica, with a population of more than 2 million, is abysmally poor. Only about three-quarters of its 2.7 million acres are arable, and that includes mountain sides where the slopes are steep, the soil rocky, and the water undependable. The island has no oil, no coal and no hydroelectric power. When the sugar industry collapsed some years before the emancipation of the slaves in 1833, the Jamaican economy survived only through imperial trade preferences and defense subsidies.

With no lure of large profits, most of the permanent British residents left. Those who remained mingled with and intermarried newer and more enterprising arrivals and the browns of an earlier period. A new elite was created, ranging from the almost white to the noticeably Afro-European, Afro-Chinese, Afro-East Indian, and Afro-Middle Eastern. But to this day, 75 per cent of the population is pure black.

It is impossible in Jamaica to discover the traditional lower, middle and upper classes of Europe. There are only two classes. One comprises almost all of the pure blacks, plus the poorer Afro hyphenates, including all skilled and unskilled blue-collar workers. Together they make up 85 per cent of the population. The other class, 15 per cent, contains business, professional and white-collar workers.

It is an error to view this solely as a racial division. There are blacks at the top too. The real division is according to wealth, dress, speech and social attitude. As the Jamaican economy boomed, the upper 15 per cent got the money, the houses and the cars. Some wealth did trickle down. The old mud and wattle shacks disappeared and for the first time in the island's history, most Jamaicans were adequately fed and clothed. But the gap between the elite and the masses was as great as ever.

Michael Manley calls his politics Democratic Socialism and defines it as "the Christian way of life and action." He is against imperialism and capitalism. He says there must be government control of key industries with freedom for private business to operate within the context of a welfare society. His most impressive achievement to date is the taming of the aluminum companies. Starting in 1949, the American companies, Alcoa, Kaiser and Revere, and Alcan of Canada, bought up about 230,000 acres of bauxite lands, or more than 11 per cent of the land area of Jamaica. Inexperienced politicians arranged for easy taxes based solely on profits to be defined by the companies. It was economic imperialism in its crudest form.

In April 1974, after the example set by the Arabs, Manley demanded that the contracts be renegotiated. By



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then, Jamaica had become the world's second largest producer of bauxite, supplying 60 per cent of America's needs. Manley imposed taxes and a levy based on a percentage of the price of the finished ingot. Jamaica's revenues increased from $39 million in 1972 to $182 million in 1975. He is buying back all of the land, with guarantees that the reserves will be available when needed. He also demanded a 51 per cent share of mining and alumina (the processed stage) facilities and the right to sell some of the production to Algeria, Eastern Europe or any other market. To date, agreements have been reached wtih Reynolds, Kaiser and Alcoa.

Jamaica plans to build its own alumina plant, with Mexico and Venezuela supplying capital and holding minority interests. Mexico will also build a smelter with minority Jamaican interest. Other smelters are planned in Trinidad and in Guyana. It is hoped that these projects will be completed in the 1980s and that thereafter no single country will be able to control either the production or the price of Jamaica's bauxite.

Manley has also started a land program that could be equally impressive. (One-third of the population subsists on farms of 5 acres or less.) He was inspired by an Alcan project, wherein bauxite lands were leased back to the original owners until they were needed for mining. In April 1973, Manley turned this into an island-wide program called Land Lease.

So far, about 43,000 acres have been leased to about 23,000 farmers. The target is to lease an additional 10,000 acres a year. In addition to the land, the farmers are given long-term loans to build houses and are supposed to get loans and advice to improve their production. The leases run for as long as forty-nine years. They can be inherited and used as security for loans. There has been grumbling that the land is offered only on lease, but that is the point. The land is meant to be used for farms and not for speculation. A farmer who does not use the land for its designated purpose can be dispossessed.

The Land Lease acreage comes from bauxite reserves and idle land already owned by the government. Eventually the program will include idle private lands to be bought in exchange for bonds that must be held to maturity. What with the inevitability of inflation, that would mean virtual expropriation.

In addition to Land Lease, more than 4,000 sugar workers have been organized into cooperatives on 33,000 acres of land. Eventually it is planned to establish cooperatives on most of the 73,500 acres of sugar lands that major foreign owners gladly sold to the government when sugar prices collapsed in the 1960s.

Much of the recent foreign interest in Jamaica's development programs has focused on the Cuban connection. Under a technical agreement signed after Manley visited Cuba in November 1975, about 150 Cuban engineers and workers built a $2.7 million coeducational high school for 600 boarding students near Spanish Town. The school was finished in December and the Cubans have returned home.

About eighteen Cubans supervised the construction of a prefabricated housing factory in Falmouth on the north coast and built several sample homes. These Cubans have also gone home. In September, another fifty Cuban engineers returned home after completing six micro-dams and training Jamaicans to build several hundred more that are planned. Fourteen Cuban doctors are practicing under a one-year contract at a hospital at Savanna-la-Mar on the south coast. Other Cubans will be sent to Jamaica for programs to improve the fishing industry.

Finally, 530 Jamaicans have gone, or will go, to Cuba for training in the Cuban techniques of using prefabrication and simplified blueprints to produce schools, homes and small dams.

Cuban aid is an insignificant part of Jamaica's foreign assistance. Since independence, the island has received about $100 million in grants and loans from the United States. It has also received large loans from Canada, Venezuela and the World Bank, and technical assistance from West Germany, Holland and the United Nations. It has even been promised a textile mill from Communist China.

The Jamaicans have used this aid and their own resources for programs that have touched every part of the island; 150 villages have been electrified, 5,000 acres planted in forest, 190 miles of rural feeder roads completed, more than 900 water tanks built for farm water storage, twenty-three large and small food-processing plants have been completed or are planned; eight town markets are under construction.

Housing programs offer a range of possibilities. There are sites with just water and utilities installed; partially completed buildings for the owner to finish, and fully developed townships. The programs are designed for families with an income of as little as $3,000 a year. It is claimed that 23,000 homes have been started or completed under these schemes in the past five years.

Education has been made free to all, based on examinations. Schools have been placed on a shift system and this, combined with new construction, has created 123,000 new places since 1972. Two extra years of agricultural and technical education have been added to the high school term, benefiting 37,000 students from 15 to 17 years of age. There are free meals and free materials for school uniforms. By May of 1976, 55,000 persons had completed adult education programs, with another 89,000 enrolled.

Manley tends to ignore the work or planning done during the previous ten years of rule by the Jamaican Labor Party. Some of his own claims may be inflated. Nevertheless, there is little doubt that he has doubled and, in some cases tripled, the pace of national development.

In the process, Jamaica was pushed to the brink of bankruptcy. The government debt has passed $1 billion and is growing rapidly. Monthly deficits are financed through short-term foreign loans and by borrowing from the Central Bank. That, in effect, is simply printing money and pushing up inflation, now at 15 per cent a year.

Not all of this can be blamed on Manley. Jamaica's energy bill has quadrupled since 1972, despite a slight decline in imports. In 1972, Jamaica spent 18 per cent of its export earnings to buy fuel; in 1975 it spent 28 per cent. The higher fuel bill was coupled with a 20 per cent drop in bauxite shipments because of the American



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recession, continued low prices for sugar and a disastrous fall-off in tourist earnings because of reports of violence in Jamaica. It seems inevitable that the International Monetary Fund will have to rescue Jamaica, just as it is rescuing Britain. The formula would be the same: a devaluation of Jamaica's overvalued currency, tight restrictions on imports, and a reduction of government spending.

The difficulty is that there is little fat in the Jamaican economy. What would be the social cost of reducing government spending? Here the social framework of Jamaica must be kept in mind. Americans tend to see any society that has sharply divided economic groups and large unfulfilled needs as ripe for revolution or anarchy. This perception underlies much of the bad publicity that Jamaica has received in the United States.

Paradoxically, despite the publicity about crime and violence, an experienced traveler, familiar with Latin America, Italy, Greece, parts of France and, above all, the cities and suburbs of the United States, finds Jamaica an isle of somnolent peace. Physical violence, on a personal level, is extremely rare. People shout at one another but they seldom come to blows. Slum dwellers in Kingston generally do not lock their doors by day and may only slip a bolt at night. There is petty larceny from small shops, but the police know who most people are and what they should be doing. If someone is selling something he should not have, he is apt to be reported to the police and arrested on the spot.

Of course there is more crime than there was ten or twenty years ago, but that is so all over the world. There are professional criminals and some major criminal violence, but crime is not a good or safe business in Jamaica. The Jamaicans are law-and-order enthusiasts to gladden the heart of crime-burdened New Yorkers and dismay civil libertarians. The police routinely announce that someone was shot and killed and later found in possession of nothing more dangerous than a knife or machete.

Yet the people seemed obsessed with crime and violence, and the newspapers report all incidents at great length. Part of the explanation is a hysteria that reflects the fears of an elite isolated from and ignorant of the aspirations and moods of a vast majority of the populace.

There is also political posturing. The Jamaican Labor Party ritually denounces the People's National Party for being soft on communism and crime. The PNP responds by accusing the JLP of being against civil liberties.

In January 1976, a spurt of shooting coincided with the arrival of delegates from an International Monetary Fund conference. In May, a gang seeking revenge for the stabbing of one of its members set a Kingston tenement house on fire and then shot at the firemen.

In June, Manley imposed a state of emergency. Police statistics issued two months later were revealing. Curfews were imposed, roadblocks set up, combined police and army patrols scoured the streets, and more than 1,000 persons were held for questioning. But only sixty-three firearms were seized. The report confirmed the conclusion that there are not as many guns in circulation as newspapers would lead one to believe. There are guns, but they are in the hands of the relatively few professional criminals or of the elite. Much of the shooting that does occur involves the bodyguards and strong-arm men employed by both political parties. There is always a surge of shootings during election campaigns or other periods of political machismo such as the IMF conference.

Unfortunately for Jamaica's image abroad no American staff reporters are based in the English-speaking Caribbean. Reporters fly in and are suddenly thrust into an unfamiliar setting. They easily mistake the hyperbole of politicians and the Jamaican press for fact. When political thugs take pot shots at one another or a slum gang commits arson, the sound and smoke is taken as a foretaste of civil war.

Jamaicans then do an about-face, charging that the foreign press deliberately spreads false stories about their peaceful island. Manley hints of a CIA plot. When Washington relays word that no clandestine activities are underway the Jamaicans reply that similar assurances were given to the Allende government of Chile. There are no apparent signs of official American hostility toward Jamaica. The United States Embassy keeps a low profile and continues its normal negotiations for future economic aid programs.

The obvious explanation for the suspicion and ill will is sufficient: it is ignorance. The American press is projecting a false image of Jamaica. The island's racial and economic divisions do not, in themselves, justify an automatic conclusion that the island is a political tinderbox. Jamaica is not part of Latin America; it does not have a heritage of successful revolutions. The revolts of the slave period were savagely suppressed. Manley's state of emergency and the holding of several hundred persons without trial met no opposition. Among those under detention are several politicians, including one who is accused of a vague anti-government plot. Law-and-order Jamaicans do not tolerate even hints of subversion.

Nor is there a heritage of liberation rhetoric or racial confrontation. As far back as 1949, a third party was founded on an outright black racist appeal. It contested sixteen seats in Parliament. Its candidates received so few votes that all of them forfeited their deposits.

Both Christianity and Black Religion taught Jamaicans submission to authority. The charismatic man in Jamaica is not the Latin American *caudillo* leading the peasants against a class enemy. He is the shepherd of the revivalist churches, who can lead the flock only where its instincts tell it to go. Dr. Carl Stone of the University of the West Indies, Jamaica's leading political scientist and pollster, recently completed a survey largely among the lower income and unemployed. He found: "most voters, whether

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PNP or JLP, express views that are hostile or unfavorable to communism. The overall attitude to the Cuban presence is somewhat similar . . . characterized by caution and a certain amount of suspicion and anxiety. . . ."

The voice from the lower depths of Jamaica is not calling for revolution. It is calling for recognition; for spiritual reform as well as social and economic reform. Manley's leap of faith, the essence of what makes him different from the earlier charismatic leaders, such as his father, Norman Manley, and his father's great rival, Alexander Bustamante, is that he listened to the voices that were coming from below. He is the first Jamaican politician to take seriously the deeper meaning of independence.

The voice from the lower depths of Jamaica is that of the Rastafarians, a name derived from Ras Tafari, the original title of Haile Selassie. Manley began to treat them seriously with a trip to Ethiopia in 1960, followed by his close association with Haile Selassie during the Emperor's visit to Jamaica six years later. The election of 1972, which returned the PNP to power, was won on a swing vote of 8 percentage points, although the PNP gained a disproportionate thirty-seven seats to sixteen for the JLP. Most of the swing support came from the slums of Kingston, the stronghold of the Rastafarians.

They believe Selassie (despite his death) to be a living god; that the white man is inferior; that blacks are the people described in the Bible as Israelites; that Israel means Africa; that Jamaica is Babylon; that blacks have been summoned home to Ethiopia, an empire that includes all of Africa and, finally, that some day black men will rule the world.

The Rastafarians are a link with Marcus Garvey, the Jamaican who came to New York and attracted an immense following in the 1920s by preaching black ascendancy and a return to Africa. When the Rastafarians first attracted attention in Jamaica, with their long, matted hair in imitation of the Masai, the frightened elite regarded them as a criminal cult. It is possible that anti-social elements used a Rastafarian guise. Police in New York have had a great deal of trouble with rival gangs calling themselves Rastafarians. But nowadays, in Jamaica at least, the Rastafarians are recognized as harmless.

The Rastafarians preach nonviolence. They do not want to destroy Babylon; they want to reform it. Their anti-white rhetoric is aimed not at whites but at Jamaican hyphenates. They say that Jamaicans should be proud of their black culture and not try to hide it; that the divine identity of each black means love, cooperation and a mutual sharing, in contrast to the hate, individuality and selfishness they say characterizes white society.

This is the context in which Manley is trying to bring about what he calls Democratic Socialism. His embrace of Castro is a demand for recognition of Jamaica's freedom. His support of Cuba's intervention in Angola is an assertion of Jamaica's African identity. His denunciations of imperialism are a call for spiritual independence as well as economic independence.

But Manley's problem is how to translate his aspirations into reality. His opposition may seem to be the elite. Actually, his major obstacle is the intractability of the masses. When the Rastafarians say black means cooperation and mutual sharing, they mean that it *should* be like that, not that it is. Actually, Jamaica is a nation of extreme individuals, with each man out for himself. They are still living with their slave and colonial heritage, when life was a struggle for survival, malingering was a virtue and there was no room for altruism.

Wages are low but so is productivity. To watch a Jamaican crew repair a road is to see goldbricking practiced as a fine art. Nor are higher wages automatic incentives. Employees of the bauxite companies earn more than $100 a week, low by American standards but far above the legal minimum wage of 50¢ an hour. Still, it costs an aluminum company more to build a standard model house in Jamaica than it does to build the same house in the United States, even discounting the higher costs of imported components.

Now Manley wants to create a new Socialist society where the government owns key industries and all utilities, where sugar workers are organized into cooperatives, where farmers are provided with additional land, in short, where most of the resources are owned collectively by the common man who, theoretically, is working for himself.

Manley speaks of Christianity in action. He has established programs to democratize the schools and is organizing worker participation in management. The message is always the same: work and discipline for the good of the nation. He says he wants to bring about democratic socialism while retaining "democracy, democratic institutions, Parliament and the rule of law." But can he?

One can speculate at length on the possibility of failures. The history of voluntary appeals is littered with them. There is the obvious analogy with the India of Indira Gandhi, where the opposition was silenced in the name of creating a consensus for essential national goals. What happens, for instance, if the trade unions controlled by the PNP or, more likely, those controlled by the JLP, demand higher wages? Can strikes be tolerated if they threaten to dry up the few resources available for social reform? The price of aluminum is going up, but so is the cost of Jamaica's oil imports. The outlook for sugar is dismal and the prospects for added tourist income are doubtful.

It is obvious that success for Manley's efforts depends on increased American aid, and that is the greatest source of doubt. Can Americans develop an understanding of what is happening in Jamaica and not be frightened by Manley's friendship with Castro or the code word, "leftist," applied to him by the American press? American aid means the ability to buy time, which is what Manley needs. He seems to be a man in a hurry. He is away from his Kingston office more than he is in it, driving his Land Rover to meetings, lecturing, exhorting, commanding, teaching, and inspecting. Yet he told Parliament last May:

"Mr. Speaker, not all of this in my lifetime or yours, not all of this in the lifetime of anybody in this room, but the task must be defined, the goal must be clear and you must never be told don't try because you can't complete it in our lifetime." □



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# Norman Thomas: Successful Failure

**ROGER BALDWIN**

In the fall of 1968 Norman Thomas lay dying in a Long Island nursing home, almost blind, deaf, unable to walk. He was nearing his 84th birthday. But so strong was his indignation over the war in Vietnam that he had arranged a national radio interview with the wires hooked to his bedside. It was the last of his hundreds of broadcasts over the fifty years he was a national figure in political and social reforms. A few weeks later family and friends gave him a birthday party, propped up in bed, smiling and cheerful.

He lived two months more, long enough to dictate the last of half a dozen books.

As his friend and colleague of fifty years, I find the recent W. A. Swanberg biography entirely satisfying in its comprehensive detail, based mainly on Thomas's papers at the New York Public Library, and fleshed out by scores of interviews. (See Richard J. Walton's review, p. 86.) I had gone along with Thomas through all the years of his public life, from our conscientious objection in the First World War, our defense of civil liberties then and since, and in the crusades after the Second World War for peace, world order and human rights. Yes, in all but socialism, since I treated politics as a matter of practical choices, and not as a groundwork for future hopes. But for Thomas, six times candidate for President on the Socialist Party ticket, politics had to be "honest and honorable" enough to build a society free of the evils of capitalism. So he led the little dissenting party, faithful to his moral purpose, through its bitter internal struggles between its right and left wings, and saw it dwindle from its high in 1932 to a quarter century later when it was too weak even to run a national ticket. Thomas's socialism was not Marxist by the book; he was as one European quoted by Swanberg says, "a typical social-democrat of the Center," a social reformer.

Quite properly, Swanberg puts Thomas's personal stature and influence far above his role as Socialist Party leader. He was at heart an evangelist, a word he used himself, a man of such moral fervor that his indignation was instantly aroused at any injustice and evil anywhere. He had to act. His indignation found expression on the platform, in countless letters to newspapers and officials, and even on the streets in demonstrations and picketing. For Thomas the spoken word was his power base; the old preacher in him loved to move an audience with his eloquence, wit and ridicule. Probably no speaker of his time on the Left was as popular with student and liberal audiences. Trained in debate at Princeton he took on opponents, real or imaginary, and bested them. Standing ovations were the rule. Even in his last years of illness he said that once on the platform "the adrenalin began to run" and he was his old self. As he used to say wryly, "I got more ovations than votes."

Swanberg recounts in detail his years of feverish travel all over the country, booked by a lecture bureau for fees but free for the party or favorite cause—the League for Industrial Democracy, the Postwar World Council, his last creation, or his brief Turn Toward Peace. His wife, sharing all his concerns, worried about what Swanberg calls his "hurry-up, train-grabbing, sandwich-bolting, speech-making, party meetings till 2 A.M." He had half a dozen lecture subjects, fitted to the moment, and to his middle-class audiences; even his Socialist audiences were largely middle class.

Thomas was ambivalent about the one issue which upset Socialists and liberals alike, communism and the Soviet Union. Like me, he was excited and hopeful at first, but quickly disillusioned and finally hostile. His emotional anti-communism led him quite innocently into the CIA trap; he accepted deceptive assignments under auspices of the Free Europe Committee and the Congress for Cultural Freedom. In his late years he got heavily involved with a CIA-backed Latin American venture to train democratic leaders. I never thought Thomas naive—he was indeed very canny—but his strong convictions led him into unfortunate company. But Swanberg rightly concludes that his many mistakes in judgment of men and events are trifling in comparison with his merits and his moral leadership.

Thomas had always been internationalist in outlook, but after World War II, he devoted his attention mainly to U.S. foreign policy and world affairs. The hundreds of letters to officials here and abroad, his critical comment to newspapers and in his own column in a string of little papers are surprising in their variety and vehemence. He was battling for peace and disarmament through the United Nations as he had battled years before for the civil liberties of all persons without exception, here and abroad. He traveled to the Far East, to the Middle East, to the Soviet Union and to Spain. He had been a critical supporter of Israel's cause, and a passionate champion of Loyalist Spain, even trimming his pacifist principles to help recruit a Debs battalion for the army. He justified it as a police action in support of a legal government.

Peace and world order, preferably democratic socialism, were his concerns through all the later years. Though he never yielded his high purposes, Swanberg recounts Thomas's frequent lapses into despair over personal failure, the failure of his party, and the hopelessly desperate state of the world. But his pessimism was short-lived; his commitment to public life was too deep for despair.

If Norman Thomas was a failure, he was a conspicuously successful one. He was not a Utopian to be discounted; indeed he had the Utopian vision, but he proved in his daily crusade for righteousness the practical power of a moral ideal. □

*Roger Baldwin, founder of the American Civil Liberties Union, is Honorary President of the International League for Human Rights, affiliated with the United Nations.*



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# BOOKS & THE ARTS

## In the Absence of Heroes

NORMAN THOMAS: The Last Idealist. *By W.A. Swanberg. Charles Scribner's Sons. 528 pp. $14.95.*

**RICHARD J. WALTON**

W.A. Swanberg's "biography" of Norman Thomas is a good book, a moving and deeply interesting book, but it is not a biography. Fascinatingly stuffed with the materials of biography, perhaps even overstuffed, it is a tribute not a biography. So admiring is Swanberg that even one who approached the book expectantly quickly became wary.

This is not to say that the author has avoided areas in which Thomas has been criticized, but plainly he wished he could. He approaches each one gingerly, making some bland statement like "Thomas was not at his best," gives the subject a light brush-over and glides away as quickly as possible. Swanberg's book reads too much like a campaign biography. There is nothing wrong with such a tribute, especially for a man who so richly deserves one, but Swanberg would have us believe, no doubt believes himself, that this is an unbiased study of Norman Thomas. It is normal for a writer to believe that; that's why critics exist. But in the case of this book, most critics—with a few exceptions—have joined Swanberg in a hallelujah chorus.

Something is plainly wrong when a self-styled radical is so widely popular, and one suspects that the passage of time has cast a nostalgic glow over Norman Thomas. But there is, I think, more to it than that. Although Swanberg would be horrified by the idea, his own evidence convinced me that Thomas was not a radical and, except to those on the far Right, was never, in recent decades anyway, really perceived as one. And although he ran for President six times as a Socialist, his was a very pale socialism. He was prepared to rock the boat a little, but sink it, never. Swanberg goes to some pains to convince the reader that Thomas was no mere reformer, but he is bound to fail in this for that is exactly what Thomas was.

Before going any further, let me say that I was often moved by Swanberg's book, for he captures superbly one of the authentically great—and good—men of our time. No *Nation* reader needs to be reminded of Thomas's good works nor of his political and physical courage nor, most impressive, his extraordinary stamina. For a half century—from before World War I until well into the war in Vietnam—Thomas was on the front line of more good causes than seems possible for one man, or even a dozen. Even an abbreviated list of them—from defending C.O.s in World War I, to fighting FDR on behalf of sharecroppers in the 1930s, to damning the war in Vietnam in the late 1960s when he could barely hobble to a podium he could barely see—would pre-empt a discussion here of anything else. One can think of no one except A.J. Muste of equal longevity.

But while only a few Americans have ever heard of A.J. Muste, even those whose only source of information is *Time* magazine know about Norman Thomas. Muste was too tough a critic of American society, whereas Thomas, for all his integrity, for all his genuine outrage at economic, social and political injustice, was never really dangerous. Indeed, he was readily accepted, with America's great talent for co-optation, into the consensus. He was the house gadfly, a living proof of America's capacity for self-criticism.

Thomas deliberately chose to work within the consensus because he saw early, despite Marxist dogma, that the American labor movement was hopeless as an engine for swift and serious change. He saw a more likely radical force in the liberal middle class which he hoped to enlist in the causes that moved him. Actually, however, it was he who enlisted with them, rather than the other way around. Although he still carried the Socialist banner, it was a nominal socialism, scarcely different from that espoused by hundreds of thousands of New Dealers. Very little distinguished his principles from those of the average member of the ADA which, indeed, he eventually joined. He was, in effect, a male Eleanor Roosevelt who began much earlier and lasted a little longer. This is no little praise, but it hardly qualifies Thomas as either radical or Socialist.

This perhaps explains Thomas's total failure to build a Socialist Party. When the Left was crying for red meat, he was offering *blanquette de veau*, and as a consequence he never became the leader, for all his charisma, of a mass or even of a numerically significant party of the Left. Indeed, he, himself, fell victim to the sectarian infighting among the parties of the Left causing him to preside over a splintered and steadily shrinking organization. (Incidentally, I wish I knew of a book that offered a fair explanation of the bitter hatreds that for decades caused the Left—Communists, Socialists, Trotskyists, et al.—to expend more passion on internecine conflict than they did fighting their common enemies on the Right.)

Perhaps Thomas was just too social to be a true Socialist. Even Swanberg is a bit uncomfortable with the fact that Thomas married into wealth, lived in a household with servants, had a country house to which even his closest Socialist comrades were seldom invited and belonged to a segregated beach club where he chatted amiably with fellow member John Foster Dulles. He also served on numerous boards most of whose members were capitalists of the first order. Although he was personally frugal (as, indeed, are many capitalists), he lived an upper-middle-class life and was generally comfortable in so doing. He fraternized quite happily with those who should have been his sworn enemies, demonstrating, although Swanberg does not say so, that he lacked the visceral and intellectual animus toward capitalism necessary for a good Socialist. Nor did Thomas make the essential connection between modern imperialism, which he genuinely loathed, and capitalism.

Unlike Thomas's heir, Michael Harrington, Swanberg does not discuss whether there is any point in having a Socialist Party, or whether Socialists might do more to achieve their goals by working within the Democratic Party. Nor does he consider whether the Socialist Party should try to reconcile its differences with other small parties of the Left in a latter-day united front. Thomas himself saw his failure as a builder of a strong Socialist Party as the great tragedy of his life. His biographer does not probe deeply enough into the cause of this failure. Was it largely the fault of

*Richard Walton is author of the recently published* Henry Wallace, Harry Truman, and the Cold War *(Viking Press).*



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Thomas himself because he allowed himself to be distracted by too many other causes, or did he not believe deeply enough in socialism, or was American soil too unpromising?

Swanberg also skirts the cold-war period. While it is true that Thomas opposed the odious Smith Act and defended individual Communists at no little political risk to himself, he was, for many years, almost as much a cold-war liberal as ADAers such as Arthur Schlesinger Jr. He opposed McCarthyism because it was wrong and contemptible but also because it played into the hands of the Communists. He opposed the execution of the Rosenbergs for similar reasons; he feared it would make them martyrs in the Communist cause. He also supported NATO, the bulwark of imperialism, and approved of the CIA coup in Guatemala. He was instrumental in purging his old friend, the Communist Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, from the board of the ACLU. He advocated loyalty pledges for local chapters of SANE. In short, his anti-communism often triumphed over his civil libertarianism. He was able to resist the hysteria of World War I and World War II but, for some years, not the hysteria of the cold war. Indeed, as the leading figure of the American Left, he lent respectability to the anti-Communist crusade at home and abroad, even while opposing some of its manifestations.

Indeed, it can even be argued that Thomas played a part in the election of Joseph McCarthy in 1946. McCarthy was floundering around for an issue in the general election after defeating the incumbent, Robert La Follette Jr., in the Republican primary. Shortly before the election Thomas was in Wisconsin as speaker at the annual Socialist picnic. Thomas called on the Democratic candidate, Howard J. McMurray, to repudiate the endorsement of the chairman of the small and weak Wisconsin Communist Party printed in *The Daily Worker*. Thomas asked McMurray if he would "accept the 'fellow traveler' label" that *The Daily Worker* had pinned on him, or if he were "just hard up for an issue" when he attacked the bipartisan cold-war policy. Two Wisconsin newspapers picked up on this and so, a few days later, did Joe McCarthy. He might have done so anyway, but it was Thomas who pinned the Red label on McMurray.

Thomas also lent his prestige to the AFL's anti-Communist hatchet men, Jay Lovestone and Serafino Romualdi who were doing the State Department's work among labor unions in Latin America, a fact of which Swanberg makes little or no mention. He also takes pains to exonerate Thomas from any knowledge of the fact that it was CIA money that was paying for many of his activities, and yet there is evidence that Thomas approached his friend Ailen Dulles in the 1950s for money to be furnished to the American Committee for Cultural Freedom, using two foundations as conduits. Even if Thomas were entirely unwitting of the CIA funding, the fact that the CIA chose to fund him demonstrates that he was considered a soldier in the cold war.

From the beginning of his political life to its end, Thomas seldom pushed his own arguments to their logical conclusion. He appeared to have that passion for respectability which also characterized American liberals. Eugene V. Debs sometimes embarrassed him and so, decades later, did A.J. Muste for using what Thomas considered excessive language. He was equally horrified by the language and the actions of the kids who protested the war in Vietnam. Serious change is not made by such men. And the American Establishment knew it. If it had regarded Thomas as dangerous, he would have been consigned to the sort of obscurity occupied by those who truly threaten the status quo.

All this is not meant to diminish what Thomas did in his extraordinary half century as one of the most useful men in our history. It is meant to suggest that Swanberg's is far from the complete story, that Thomas should be subject to the kind of serious criticism that is almost entirely lacking in this tribute. As a tribute, however, the book is good, often moving, often inspiring, and in a time when American heroes are in terribly short supply, one can hardly blame Swanberg for seeing Norman Thomas as the most likely candidate. □

# Hitler De-Luciferized

ADOLF HITLER. *By John Toland. Doubleday & Co. 1,035 pp. $14.95.*

**WILLIAM SHERIDAN ALLEN**

Last spring I had occasion to watch several hours of home movies that had been captured in Germany by the American Army at the end of World War II and deposited in our National Archives. They were like everyone else's home movies, trivial and dull, except that the home was Adolf Hitler's and the photographer was his mistress, Eva Braun. We see Hitler trying on a new fedora, getting the dog to do a cute trick, having tea on the patio with some fat Bavarian women, blowing out the candles on his birthday cake. Portrait of the mass murderer on his summer holiday. The value of these unique historical documents is their negative contribution—they cast doubt on some existing interpretations. To observe a banal Austrian *petit bourgeois* playing host forces one to redefine the word "monster" exactly as the late Hannah Arendt, when presented with the stupefying mediocrity of Adolf Eichmann, was forced to confront "The Banality of Evil."

Something of the same effect is the best feature of John Toland's new and massive biography of Hitler. The *Führer* emerges not as a gigantic Lucifer but as an obsessive murderer (in public) whose private life was dull, genial, and slightly cranky. But *why* was Hitler a mass murderer? Eva Braun's home movies cannot tell us and neither does Toland's book, for the question is never properly raised. To raise it would require analysis, interpretation, a thesis—and these are precisely what Toland's book lacks.

One approach that might have been taken occurred to me through the coincidence of my reading Woodward and Bernstein's *The Final Days* at about the same time as I was ploughing through *Adolf Hitler*. The similarities between Hitler's and Nixon's personalities are striking. Both were gifted political manipulators given to megalomaniacal broodings, indifferent to morality, darkly streaked with paranoia, but privately banal and bathetic. Does that mean that America could have become a Third Reich except for the Watergate exposures? Of course not, and one reason is simply that Hitler had Germany to work with while Nixon had to make do with America.

Now this is not a very original or profound observation. How can one write a book about Hitler without also effectively describing Hitler's relationship with the Germans? But this is what Toland has done and the chief reason is that Toland, like Woodward and Bernstein, thinks of himself as an investigative reporter: get the facts; the story will tell itself. The methodology used is also the same and is one that has become almost *de rigueur* for popular history

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since Cornelius Ryan invented it in *The Longest Day*. You interview hundreds of witnesses, read all the memoirs, and then compose a vivid narrative from the resultant anecdotal tidbits. Toland interviewed nearly 150 associates and acquaintances of Hitler from *Gauleiters* and generals down to his chauffeur, typist, and personal pilot. He also read (or at least cites) most of the relevant memoirs and historical studies. From this comes the good side of the book: a mosaic of details which at least undercuts many prevailing popular theories.

Thus we learn that Hitler had a normal upbringing in a warm and prosperous family. He did not go through any desperate hand-to-mouth existence in Vienna as a young man. He did not have an abnormal sex life and at least as of 1944 had no missing genitalia. There is no record that Hitler was ever seized by uncontrolled "carpet-biting" rages, though he apparently feigned them when it suited some tactical political need. He could be contradicted with impunity by some of his associates, even on the "Jewish question." In private he was a kind, often generous, sometimes even charming individual whose worst personal traits were meandering monologues of stultifying tediousness and a lifelong embarrassing problem with flatulence. It is going to be hard, henceforth, to ignore the Hitler of Eva Braun's home movies.

But in the course of exposing previous errors about Hitler, Toland commits some new ones. For example, there is absolutely no indication, let alone evidence, that Hitler's grandfather could have been a Jew. Kaiser Wilhelm did not abdicate on November 9, 1918; he waited for several weeks after the war was over. Hitler's first speech at a Nazi meeting did not "electrify" the audience; they were mostly indifferent to him. Hitler's early close associate, Hermann Esser, was not an ex-Communist—in fact none of the early Nazis were, nor was Goebbels a former "Marxist" by any stretch. Hitler did not "pave the way to social security and old-age benefits" in Germany; that had been done by Bismarck fifty years before. And so on.

I stress these errors of fact because Toland's book will be widely read and has been ballyhooed as a paragon of accuracy. It has already been on the best-seller list for ten weeks. But his inaccuracies are insignificant in comparison to his utter lack of interpretation or even effective discussion of previous theories or to his incredible naïveté about Hitler's relations with his party or the Germans. One gets no clear picture of the forces and factors at work in Germany nor any analysis of Hitler's tactics as a result of them. Although the bulk of recent scholarly research has focused on the way Nazism exploited middle-class panic in depression Germany, Toland mentions this in only one brief paragraph. And while the internal workings of the Nazi party as manipulated by Hitler have been analyzed for at least a decade (since Joseph Nyomarkay's seminal *Charisma and Factionalism in the Nazi Party*), Toland ignores them entirely. The book is certainly big enough to contain all the elements in Hitler's career but they are never sorted out. The result is that we get Hitler without Nazism. Even though Toland himself quotes an important contemporary observer and fellow traveler, Oswald Spengler, "Hitler is a fool but one must support the movement," there is virtually nothing on this "movement" that brought Hitler to power.

Worst of all is Toland's simplistic assumption that Hitler could count on total popular backing once the Third Reich was established. Without any supporting evidence Toland claims that within six months of becoming Chancellor Hitler had the majority of Germans behind him though just three months beforehand, in March 1933, 56 per cent of the people had voted for other parties—in the last accurately tabulated national election—and there were large areas of the country where the Nazis got less than a quarter of the vote. From then on, Toland relies on the Nazis' phony election statistics, calling them "a true barometer of German feeling." He is momentarily puzzled by the Nazi report that 2,154 of the 2,242 inmates in Dachau concentration camp voted for Hitler in the first of the fake elections (November 1933), but by the time he gets to the "plebiscite" of August 1934, Toland abandons all qualms and says "almost 90 per cent of the German people *freely* voted their approval of Adolf Hitler."

This shows a profound ignorance of the internal mechanics of terroristic states. There is vast evidence that the Nazis used all available means to enforce a "correct" vote in their farcical elections. They systematically violated the secrecy of the ballot booth and backed that up with concentration camp sentences for people who voted "no." And as for those Dachau inmates endorsing their persecutors, the reason they did so was given by an escapee within less than a year of the report (Gerhard

## DEW AT THE EDGE OF A LEAF

*The broader leaves collect*
*enough to see early*
*by a wide spread of moonlight,*
*and they shine!, shine!—*
*who are used to turning*
*faces to the light.*

*Looking up is farthest.*
*From here or under any tree,*
*I know what will transpire:*
*leaves in their watery halos have*
*an overhead-to-underfoot career,*
*and thrive toward falling.*

*In a passage of time and water,*
*I am half-way—a leaf in July?*
*In August? I take no pity.*
*Everything green is turning brown,*
*it's true, but then too*
*everything turning brown is green!*

Marvin Bell

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Seger, *Oranienburg*, Carlsbad, Czechoslovakia, 1934): they deliberately agreed to vote "yes" to show the outside world what a fraud the election was. Not that such ploys mattered, really, since the Nazis themselves "counted" the votes and regularly faked the results—in some cases so crudely as to produce more pro-Nazi ballots in given localities than there were voters there.

I have dwelt on this matter of elections at length because conclusions based on such simplistic assumptions are bound to be faulty and to lead to further errors. Toland buys Hitler's assertion that you can work miracles with propaganda (thus ignoring the Gestapo's arrest of more than a million Germans before World War II), and now others will too. Through the popularity of the book the process has already begun; in a nationally syndicated column on November 30 of last year the conservative James Bishop theorized on the debased nature of mankind as revealed by Toland's Nazi election statistics. Ironically Hitler himself knew better and Toland reports him muttering at the time of the Munich crisis, when, despite Nazi propaganda, the Germans were very afraid of war: "I cannot wage war with this nation yet." Even more pertinent is one of Hitler's last remarks in the bunker in Berlin: "National Socialism is dead and will never rise again."

By now it should be clear that what hurt Toland's book are the same elements that give it any value. The multiplicity of interviews and memoirs help build up detail and tear down myths, but at the same time they are no substitute for analysis and can lead to false conclusions especially when treated uncritically. Nothing but eager credulity could have allowed Toland to accept Leni Riefenstahl's effusive denials of complicity with the Nazi regime in filming *Triumph of the Will* (whatever she's been saying lately it is completely obvious that she was a super-Nazi then). Nothing but conceptual confusion could have led Toland to refer to the S.S. units as "models of democracy." Similar dependence on *ex post facto* testimony produces lots of information on Hitler as a human being (he was a rather uninteresting one), little on him as a politician (he was terrifyingly effective), and virtually nothing on him as a demonic lunatic (which is what makes Hitler important to study in the first place).

Why is this sort of gossip-history so popular? I think for the same reason that talk shows, magazines like *People*, and Barbara Walters's televised invasions of Presidential privacy thrive in contemporary America. Given the growing atomization of society we have fewer opportunities to gossip, leaving the media to jump in with an institutionalized alternative. So it is with popular history. But gossip cannot substitute for analysis without leaving us defenseless in the face of something like Nazism.

This is not to deny that Toland's de-Luciferizing of Hitler is useful. It is good to see Hitler the *petit bourgeois* breaker of wind at tea parties; Milton's Satan, after all, was a complexly attractive figure. But of course it is far more important to understand how this banal murderer reached a position where he could carry out mass murder. Here Toland's book not only fails to tell us what we need to know; it gives us misleading data.

For those who want to answer that question, I would recommend Joachim Fest's older *Hitler*, plus the standard historical monographs such as Jeremy Noakes's *The Nazi Party in Lower Saxony*. For those who do not, it would be cheaper and less time consuming to spend an afternoon in the National Archives watching Eva Braun's home movies. □


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# Malraux: Engaged Intellectual

**ERNST PAWEL**

Death was central to Malraux's vision of man, the ultimate absurdity. But though he lacked faith, he believed in immortality of sorts—in the brief moment of immortality man wrests from fate by an act of creation. In that sense, he won out over the absurd.

He was 75 when he died, an incredible age, given the pitch at which he lived. Death, as though mocking him, had claimed his children, lovers, comrades, while passing him by, declining the challenge. Throughout the illness and depression of his final period he remained open to the world and recorded his own agony with dispassionate lucidity.

Obituaries tend to provoke pomposity; Malraux's own sense of irony frequently succumbed to that particular temptation in his later years. Convention decrees homage at the open grave, or at least lip service. Critical evaluation, and the final grades for effort and achievement are left to posterity. But hindsight is not always more acute than the view from up close, nor does comprehension necessarily improve with distance. Let posterity make what it will of *Man's Fate* or the *Voices of Silence*. To those of us who came of age during the first half of this century, he gave much. If nothing else, he proved that reason is no bar to passion, and that skepticism does not have to mean resignation.

The standard portrait of Malraux as a Faustian genius driven by exotic demons, the activist-turned-bureaucrat who set out to save the world and ended up preserving historic monuments, is not inaccurate; he certainly made conscientious and, on the whole, successful efforts to live up to the demands of each of these metamorphoses. At the same time, it be-

*Ernst Pawel is a novelist who frequently reports on literary and political developments abroad.*



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## KATE, 10 DAYS OLD

*Kate turns in her cradle.*
*The world is like water.*
*Drowned lives move toward her*
*—fumey serpents, young, weeping sailors;*
*fish like flowers; blind squid.*
*I remember you, she thinks.*
*She swims (tries to swim) to them*
*but the shapes are ghosts.*
*The dim crabs, the pale*
*exploring snails, the dead*
*babies, the mer-people,*
*the coral hills, vanish.*
*She sees, as the waves depart,*
*mothers, fathers.*
*She spits a humid kiss*
*in thin air, and sleeps,*
*real as a starfish.*

Jane Hayman

came apparent quite early in Malraux's career that his gifts far transcended the limitations intrinsic to any particular role.

A formidable intelligence, above all. He left school at 17 and began his real education in the "school without walls" —a lifelong, frenzied, passionate involvement with art, ideas, politics and people. One of the world's great teachers, he was his own best pupil, one who devoured knowledge with an aggressive and insatiable curiosity that kept him grotesquely youthful until way past middle age. Despite keen competition on either bank of the Seine he quickly attracted attention and soon dazzled the intellectual élite of Paris, long before he had any substantial achievements to his credit. In Malraux's presence, as Gide was to remark, no one ever felt very bright.

That this did not earn him undivided love and affection is to be taken for granted. But it did earn him respect, even from his enemies. Within French tradition generally, and especially in the —albeit badly fragmented—intellectual community, an articulate intelligence was not regarded as detracting from one's manhood. Respect for the mind, including one's own, was one feature of the "moveable feast" that the puritan refugees from Brooklyn and points west proved largely unable to assimilate. Perhaps only Hemingway came even close to suspecting the truth, though the suspicion didn't do much for him. Childhood in mid-America can be a chronic ailment. Hemingway was a chronic child all his life; and hating the taint of exquisite sensitivity in himself, he despised Malraux with a passion. The fact that Malraux failed to reciprocate merely added fuel to the fire. Strangely enough, both their fathers had committed suicide.

But Malraux, despite a far from happy childhood, was the more fortunate. Growing up in the distant and now all but legendary France before the Fall, he could assert his gifts without apology or self-laceration.

To be precise, his gifts asserted themselves—at first in spite rather than because of his own ambitions. Much has been made of Malraux's exploits in the Far East, and he himself was never reluctant to feed the myth by cryptic allusions and discreet silences. The blunt fact is that in 1923, at the age of 22, he went to Indochina with his new bride to steal Khmer temple art, was caught, sentenced to jail, and freed through the intercession of prominent French intellectuals. The experience proved crucial in a number of ways. Shocked by his first-hand exposure to the realities of French imperialism, he linked up with native radicals, briefly published an anti-French newspaper in Saigon, and, after his forced repatriation, rapidly drifted leftward. But the episode also inspired *Man's Fate*, the novel that brought him world fame and the one which remains his most impressive book.

In the 1930s, with the rise of Hitler and the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War, Malraux became the leading *intellectuel engagé*. As the age of reason turned into its opposite, what stood out was his courage. If the best lacked all conviction, he was among them, by choice. In Moscow, at the height of the purges, he proposed a toast to Leon Trotsky, hero of the revolution. But he had the courage of his intelligence, and it kept him from being paralyzed by despair. It also kept him from trading in his brains for a gun; not for him the *acte gratuit*. In war as in politics and art, he saw action as applied intelligence, a way of transcending rather than wallowing in death.

That in the end the hero came to overshadow the novelist, and the Gaullist commissar of culture detracted from the brooding philosopher of art seems ironic but inevitable. The vast Malraux literature, a veritable cottage industry promoted by friends and lovers, by critics, exegetes and hacks, is unlikely to redress the balance. I am no longer sure it matters. Malraux at his best was a superb novelist, and even at his murkiest he remains eloquently provocative. But his greatest achievement may well lie beyond the scope of facile categories and transcend both fame and fiction.

Among the latest crop of books about him, published just before his death, is a biography by Axel Madsen*—conscientious, factual, and eminently readable, partly because rather than in spite of its limitations. Madsen writes plain, nonacademic prose, uninspired but unobjectionable. He has tracked down all the sources, trimmed fact from fancy, and presented his findings along with useful and objective background information.

Rather too objective, perhaps. Not only does he make French politics seem almost rational but Malraux's work—particularly what, for want of a better label, has been referred to as the speculative meditations of his later years—resists didactic summaries. He was brilliantly intuitive rather than original, unorthodox in the finding and forging of hidden links between disparate ideas. Above all, he was stunningly verbal, a master of language carried away by his own mastery into flights of rhetoric. Trying to strip the subtle complexities of the *Voices of Silence* or the *Walnut Trees of Altenburg* down to bite-sized essentials is cutting the living flesh off the bone.

But if it fails to convey the genius of the man, this sober and unpretentious account succeeds in something perhaps equally significant: it evokes the image of Malraux as a quintessentially decent human being. He never quite

**Malraux: A Biography*. By Axel Madsen. William Morrow and Co. 383 pp. $11.95.


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let brilliance get the better of his common sense, never lost the knack for puncturing his own pomposity and self-importance when it threatened to get out of hand. He joined no church, of this world or any other, and worshipped neither gods nor heroes but was always ready to fight alongside them in a good cause. Though never a party member, he collaborated with the Communists in Spain and in the French Resistance. He worked for de Gaulle, whom he had come to admire, without becoming a *Gaulliste*. And at 70, he volunteered to fight in Bangladesh.

But even from Madsen's strictly factual version of events, it is obvious that Malraux's courage was much more than grace under fire, and that what tested him most as a man took place not on the battlefield but within the rigorously private confines of his personal life. Among all his achievements, from *Man's Fate* to *Lazarus,* from *son et lumière* to the refurbished façades of public buildings, the greatest may also be the least conspicuous: the full and troubled life of a man who tried to make sense out of chaos and, in the process, transmuted limpid intelligence into a measure of wisdom. □

# ART

## LAWRENCE ALLOWAY

A remarkable group of major paintings from Swiss museums and private collections is on view (until March 1) at the Museum of Modern Art. "European Master Paintings from Swiss Collections" is a good chance to see a strong group of paintings together—especially the early cubist work by Braque and Picasso, which can be compared with the works already at the Modern. Such a show is made possible only by institutional clout and favors. As an example, the Basel Kunstmuseum sent over its early cubist works in exchange for a reciprocal loan from the MOMA to a Picasso show there, though according to a press release Basel has announced it will never splurge this way again. (It is like the risk of losing a whole football team if it flies in one plane.)

How do the 20th-century "masters" look, when judged by works less familiar than those habitually consultable in New York? Modigliani looks as superficial as ever and Chagall as flaccid and sentimental in his early works as in his later. The dullness of late Juan Gris is fully stated in "Pierrot," 1919. The Klees are a dull lot, except for the large "Insula Dulcamara," 1938, though whether this is due to the Paul Klee Foundation's stinginess or to William Rubin's rationalistic eye (he selected the show) is not clear. It is odd that Klee should not be treated better in a *Swiss* show. The groups by Braque and Léger come out best in this selection, though there are some interesting single pieces. There is a "Seated Harlequin," 1923, by Picasso, humanly observed as well as elegantly stylized; Robert Delaunay's stunning "Homage to Blériot"—like a bouquet thrust in a celebrity's face; and an elaborate, sustained early Kandinsky.

It is understood that, to stay with this example, the Basel Kunstmuseum and the Museum of Modern Art, for all their watchfulness regarding their holdings, agree on what should be held. The show is presented as an anthology of the work of masters and an equivalent display in Switzerland from American museums would be similarly billed. What is it that is so authoritative and attractive about these works? The familiar lesson that yesterday's avant-garde supplies today's masterpieces applies here. This is usually taken to mean that the original public reaction (when they all laughed) was wrong, but that now we know better. We are heirs to a truth to which our ancestors were blind.

However, perhaps we treasure these works because we have been trained to: the pressure of consensus has conditioned the way we see the work. It comes to us with art historical and social credentials that are hard to resist. The first generation of spectators saw the raw work in one way and we see it in another, mediated by a well-constructed alliance of merchants and historians. I am not immune: some of the work looks marvelous to me, but is this because I am smarter than my predecessors (unlikely) or because I have been educated to accept early modern art (probable)? The show is an argument for classics in art, for absolute standards; but it can be viewed as a triumph of mediation, and as such an argument for the instability of taste. We are certainly, at this moment, on the cusp of acceptance.

The catalogue of the show, by John Elderfield, follows a format that the Modern has used in several recent publications. It is a form of commentary, in which a work is reproduced and discussed on the facing page. There is no continuous text, but a close attention to each separate work: the catalogue becomes a string of beads. This arrangement was first used, I think, in 1972, with *Picasso in the Collection of the Museum of Modern Art* by William Rubin, a series of admirable one-at-a-time discussions of the works in the permanent collection. In the same year there was *Three Generations of 20th Century Art,* a catalogue of the hefty Janis bequest. Its entries are uniformly respectful (the donor lives), but not sharply focused. The relation of work and text is like that of an enthusiastic


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lecturer with slides, speaking out of town. In 1973, *Miró in the Collection of the Museum of Modern Art* (Rubin again) resumed the pattern with illuminating and specific 1- or 2-page entries. And now there is *European Master Paintings from Swiss Collections* by John Elderfield (24 color, 48 black-and-white illustrations. 168 pp. $6.95).

There are some odd emphases, such as Elderfield's overestimation of "The Aficionado," 1912, and "Women on the Banks of the Seine, after Courbet," 1950, both by Picasso, but his research and opinions are usually sound, so far as they go. He spends an inordinate time discussing the surface organization of each painting. Gauguin is "resolutely flat" and Monet "rigorously flat." In the *douanier* Rousseau "everything is oriented to this flat surface" and in Bonnard "everything is pushed up flat to the picture plane." He discusses Cézanne's "two-dimensional construction" as well as the "painting surface as a taut, stretched membrane" in Matisse. These formal matters are not all that he discusses, but they preponderate. He could find a model for a better balance of formal analysis and iconographical readings of greater complexity than he usually allows in Rubin's Picasso and Miró catalogues.

Given this format, in which one entry equals one painting, Elderfield's kind of criticism leads to a tedious overemphasis on what can be seen. The discussion of paintings in terms of their mechanics and physical characteristics far in excess of other kinds of information is boring. It certainly distorts the purpose of most artists. In his commentary on Picasso's "Seated Harlequin," for example, Elderfield has some interesting observations on the artist's use of harlequins, but no information about the sitter, the painter Jacinto Salvado. Did this man have an affinity for the harlequin suit? Was he a Spanish friend who just obliged Picasso by dressing up? Or what? The information is needed and should certainly be supplied in picture-specific criticism like this. Single-picture analysis requires more contextual information than Elderfield is willing to divulge. Instead of figuring out a way to give iconographical and biographical data their weight along with pictorial matters, he offers clenched visual diagrams in a kind of moralistic formalism. □

# RECORDS

## DAVID HAMILTON

WAGNER: *Rienzi.* Soloists, Leipzig Radio Chorus. Dresden State Opera Chorus and Orchestra. Heinrich Hollreiser, cond. Angel SELX 3818. $34.90 (five discs).

For all its reliance on stock characters, situations, and musical devices, Wagner's youthful essay in Meyerbeerian grand opera moves along with much exuberance and panache. A good deal of it is crude and obvious, though not as much so as this recording, by its pedestrian conducting and by its unpolished singing, manages inadvertently to suggest. And not a little is tedious, more so than it would be on stage, where processions and ceremonials would engage the attention.

In fact, Wagner's original *Rienzi* was still longer than this first recording, which unfortunately perpetuates an inauthentic abridgment made in the 1890s by Wagner's widow and the Bayreuth chorus master Julius Kniese, omitting—among many things—some prophetically eloquent material. After years of insufficient snippets, one doubtless ought to be grateful for this much, but gratitude is tempered by the knowledge that a short further delay would have afforded access to a new and scholarly edition of the opera now in progress. Then we might have had *Rienzi,* if not absolutely as it was written (indeed, overwritten, in anticipation of inevitable cutting), at least abridged along the composer's lines rather than tendentiously reshaped by disciples sedulously adherent to his later doctrines.

Both musically and interpretively, then, this is but an interim plugging of a significant gap in the record catalogues—but the interim is likely to last quite a while. Prospective purchasers of the Angel set are warned that some defective copies of Side 8, lacking the final measures of Act IV, are in circulation; these can be identified by the stamper number "G3" following the matrix number "SQ2-37073" embossed on the record surface outside the label.

WAGNER: *Der Ring des Nibelungen.* Soloists, La Scala Chorus and Orchestra. Wilhelm Furtwängler, cond. Murray Hill 940477. $19.99 (eleven records, mono; recorded 1950).

In a letter of April 11, 1950, Wilhelm Furtwängler told a friend, "I have come straight from Milan, where I performed the whole of Wagner's *Nibelung's Ring* with good singers (Flagstad, Svanholm,


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## IN THE ARBORETUM

*April. Too late for winterkill*
*and still there are too many deer.*
*People in high places have seen the signs:*
*prairie plants knocked over,*
*grass matted down, chewed up,*
*the naked trees depleted of their bark.*

*They come at dusk, parking their guns*
*and trucks at the meadow's edge, impatient.*
*Then, blinded by the natural*
*loss of light, they turn on their brights.*
*Two deer freeze in the beams.*
*The guns jump to attention, but*
*they don't even have to aim:*
*the deer dance toward the buckshot*
*in their sleep.*

*By October the coneflowers thrive;*
*the prairie grass unbends its back,*
*the forest safe and tidy now, cleaned out.*
*Soon, the wind will begin*
*to define its hollow silences.*
*Then the snow will start to rise.*

Ronald Wallace

Lorenz) and with many and thorough rehearsals. It is astounding how the Italian public received the uncut performance of these giant works, the text of which most of them could not understand at all. It was a great success, which increased with each further performance."

Those performances are now available on discs—in what would appear to be a publication of somewhat dubious authority; however, since it has now been on the market (primarily in bookstores, rather than in record shops) for some six months without intervention on the part of those whose rights would presumably be invaded, perhaps legitimacy of a sort can be assumed.

As the recording reveals, the performances were not in fact absolutely complete, but the abridgments (in Wotan's monologue, Act II of *Die Walküre*, and in the Wanderer-Siegfried scene, Act III of *Siegfried*) are by no means as great as the discrepancy between Murray Hill's eleven discs and the eighteen occupied by Seraphim's publication of the truly uncut 1953 Furtwängler Rome cycle might suggest. Murray Hill has simply squeezed a lot onto the records, with resulting low volume level (leading to more surface noise in playback), narrower groove walls (and probable earlier deterioration on the records), and—perhaps unintentionally—a slightly high pitch (well within the correction range of turntables with speed adjustment controls).

The sound is just barely acceptable: a few pitch wavers, limited dynamic and frequency range, audience noises (the conductor's characteristic foot-stomping for downbeats captured with annoying clarity), and distortion at climaxes. With all this, the performance comes through strongly, its magisterial stride and breadth more vigorously articulated than in the better-recorded 1953 cycle, the orchestral execution markedly more expert than on the later occasion and frequently rather brilliant. Flagstad is in particularly fine voice and, despite some trying moments, most of the men carry off their difficult assignments with honor (it would hardly be fair to expect of them, under performance conditions, to duplicate the consistency achieved by others under studio conditions). With all its limitations, this set constitutes a *locus classicus* of Wagnerian interpretation and, at the price, a fairly irresistible supplement to one of the more modern recordings—though by the same token far from an ideal introduction to the work.

WAGNER: "Sänger auf dem grünen Hügel." Various performers. EMI/Electrola C 181-30 668/78. $79.80 (ten discs, mono; recorded 1904/1943).

"100 Years of Bayreuth." Various performers. Deutsche Grammophon 2721 115. $15.96 (two discs, mono; recorded 1907/1966).

"100 Jahre Bayreuth." Various performers. BASF HB 22 863-0. $31.92 (four discs, mono; recorded 1931/1944).


## CONTEST FOR NEW POETS

"Discovery—THE NATION, '77" has been opened jointly by The Poetry Center of the 92nd Street YM-YWHA in New York City and THE NATION. The competition, now in its third year, represents a fusion of The Poetry Center's "Discovery" contest and THE NATION's poetry prize. It is designed to attract larger audiences for young poets through the combined media of publication and poetry recital.

Winners of the 1976 contest were Philip Schultz, Mary Swander, Jane Teller and Ellen Bryant Voigt. They gave a group reading at The Poetry Center on May 3, and their poems appeared in THE NATION of May 1.

**Contest Information:**

OPEN to poets whose work has not yet been published in book form. Book form includes chapbooks (small editions) and self-published books.

REQUIREMENTS: Ten poems (not more than 500 lines) of original poetry in English are to be submitted.

THE AWARDS: Each of the four winners will receive an honorarium of $50 and will be invited to read at The Poetry Center on Monday, May 2, 1977. Each winner will have one previously unpublished poem printed in THE NATION magazine.

MANUSCRIPT DETAILS: Submit four complete sets of the ten poems, each set securely fastened. Your name, biographical information and information indicating whether a particular poem has been published should not appear on the poems. Instead, a separate cover page should include your name, address and phone number. Manuscripts will not be returned, so please retain a copy of your submission. THE NATION reserves the right to publish at its regular rates any previously unpublished poems.

JUDGING will take place in April; winners will be chosen by judges whose names will be announced after the contest is over.

DEADLINE for receipt of poems: February 25, 1977.

SEND ALL ENTRIES TO: The Poetry Center of the 92nd Street YM-YWHA, 1395 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10028. Direct inquiries to Betsy Dunn, Assistant to the Director, The Poetry Center.




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For the historically minded, the Bayreuth centennial has stimulated a flood of retrospective material, also including five additional two-disc Deutsche Grammophon sets not yet available in this country. Wagner was not well served by early recording techniques, and a good deal of the Electrola set suggests that he wasn't often well served by his singers—some famous names come to grief here, while others simply fail to project much beyond traversal of the notes. The generation of the 1920s and 1930s brings a higher quotient of pleasure: Melchior, Berglund, Völker, Hüsch, Klose, Leider, Schorr, Bockelmann, snippets from the 1930 Elmendorff *Tannhäuser* and the 1927-28 Karl Muck *Parsifal* recordings uphold their reputations. By the final side, with passages from the 1943 Bayreuth *Meistersinger* conducted by Furtwängler (available in nearly complete form on EMI/Electrola C 181-01 797/801, five discs), we are close to a reasonable facsimile of the Wagnerian orchestral sound, although in this particular case the singing lets us down.

Of necessity, Deutsche Grammophon's survey covers the same ground—and also the postwar years—rather more sketchily, while the BASF set is a genuine curiosity: radio recordings, mostly from Germany, but also from London and New York, taken during the 1930s and early 1940s. Of these, lengthier excerpts from Covent Garden *Rings* conducted by Furtwängler (with singers such as Bockelmann, Leider, and Melchior), are the most absorbing. From the 1933 Bayreuth Festival come the final pages of *Parsifal* conducted by Richard Strauss—but heard in isolation these don't tell us much; one needs to hear the rest of the structure that they complete. This set could have been half the size without omitting anything of value.

Particularly in the Electrola set, there is much material that has never been on LP and is excessively rare in its original form. I'd say that these recordings are well worth investigation if you want to know how Wagner's music was sung in the past and will not be dismayed that the answer is often "poorly"—and only now and then "surprisingly well." □


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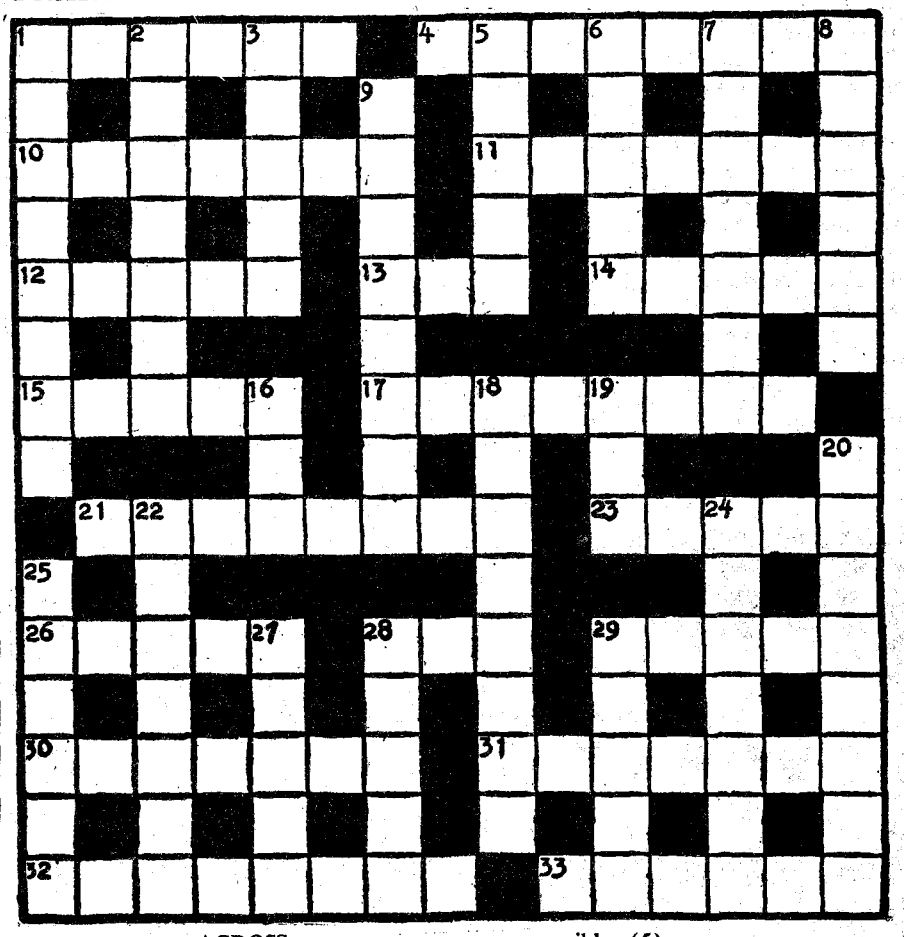
# Crossword Puzzle No. 1663

**FRANK W. LEWIS**



### ACROSS

1 and 4 What Nanette had to follow on the stage? (6,8)
10 and 11 One who was wise to such as Great Britain and Ireland, fought over by U.S. and Japan. (7,7)
12 What a cowboy sometimes does may be fair amusement. (5)
13, 28 across and 19 down Land alone makes it completely inclusive. (3,3,3)
14 and 16 down It should fit those little pointy heads. (5,3)
15 Not quite so nice as a kind of boom. (5)
17 Our country's revolution is surrounded by the fruit of demonstrative appreciation. (8)
21 Perhaps people who hope to see heads on seals? (8)
23 With the return of the animal, take a walk in the shade. (5)
26 In coming back with help, the country shows it. (5)
29 It might provide medication for the Queen's back. (5)
30 Fixing things, perhaps, with the point in worse condition. (7)
31 Paint my things in the band differently. (7)
32 and 33 Those who want an explanation for behavior might have to. (6,2,6)

### DOWN

1 and 25 down May Day, perhaps. (One might be flying the flag wrongly.) (8,6)
2 A carrier would hardly be. (7)
3 They say one gets his in beating sugar, possibly. (5)
5 Take out part of the lid, essentially. (5)
6 Top grade came first, but got worse. (5)
7 Perhaps a small hotel sign is wrong, but that's part of the game. (7)
8 and 20 It might be a break for the student, but one doesn't have to go to the island for it. (6,8)
9 Is part of the plan not a temptation to make critical marks? (8)
16 See 14 across
18 Mail time? (One might do it to check.)
19 See 13 across
20 See 8 down
22 Women surround a number of boys such as Jock. (7)
24 They're only good for the season—like books. (7)
25 See 1 down
27 Practical jokers may like to get one out of you with such get up. (5)
28 Cant the equivalent? (5)
29 You'll find a thousand in not all of the battle. (5)

### SOLUTION TO PUZZLE NO. 1662

ACROSS: 1 Satchel; 5 Polices; 9 Long bow; 10 Remorse; 11 Mango; 12 Union Jack; 15 Saffron; 18, 14 and 18 down The plot thickens; 20 Sag; 21 Hosanna; 26 Cohabited; 29 Edward I; 31 Sadiron; 32 Leeward. DOWN: 1 Salome; 2 and 23 across Tuning fork; 3 Hobgoblin; 4 Lawsuit; 5 Parties; 6 Lemon; 7 Corsairs; 8 and 28 Speaking tubes; 13 Who; 16 Foretaste; 17 Oat; 19 Eschewed; 22 Ant lion; 23 and 30 Federal Reserve; 24 Iberia; 25 Ostend; 27 Borer.



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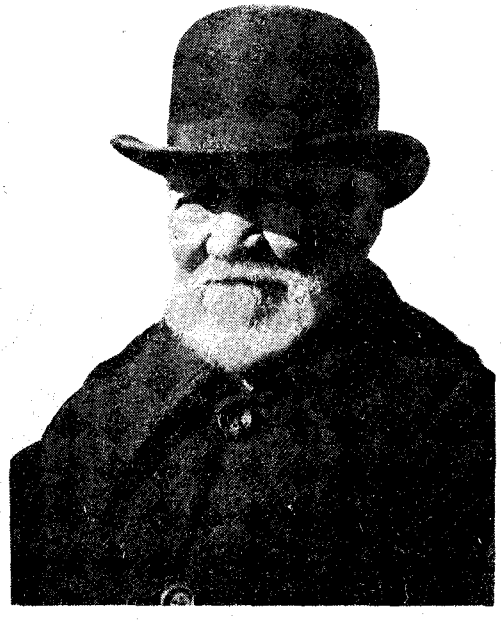
# THE LONG MARCH



## —and how ENVIRONMENT magazine gives you a map

ANDREW CARNEGIE WAS AT THE SUMMIT of financial power in 1889. He was pleased with what he saw:

*"We accept and welcome, therefore, as conditions to which we must accommodate ourselves, great inequality of environment; the concentration of business, industrial and commercial, in the hands of a few; and the laws of competition between these, as being not only beneficial, but essential to the future progress of the race."*

Carnegie announced that industry and technology had man well on his way to an advanced civilization. *"Nor,"* he advised, *"is there any conceivable end to his march to perfection."*

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■ How can there be an energy crisis when there is so much crude oil on the world market that storage tanks are full? The explanation lies in an understanding of the history of the U.S. oil and gas industry and its paramount concern with controlling rather than supplying oil and gas.

■ How did U.S. industrialized cities get into today's economic and social mess? The rise of those cities since the Civil War has always been keyed to economic incentives which are related more to industrial than human needs.

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